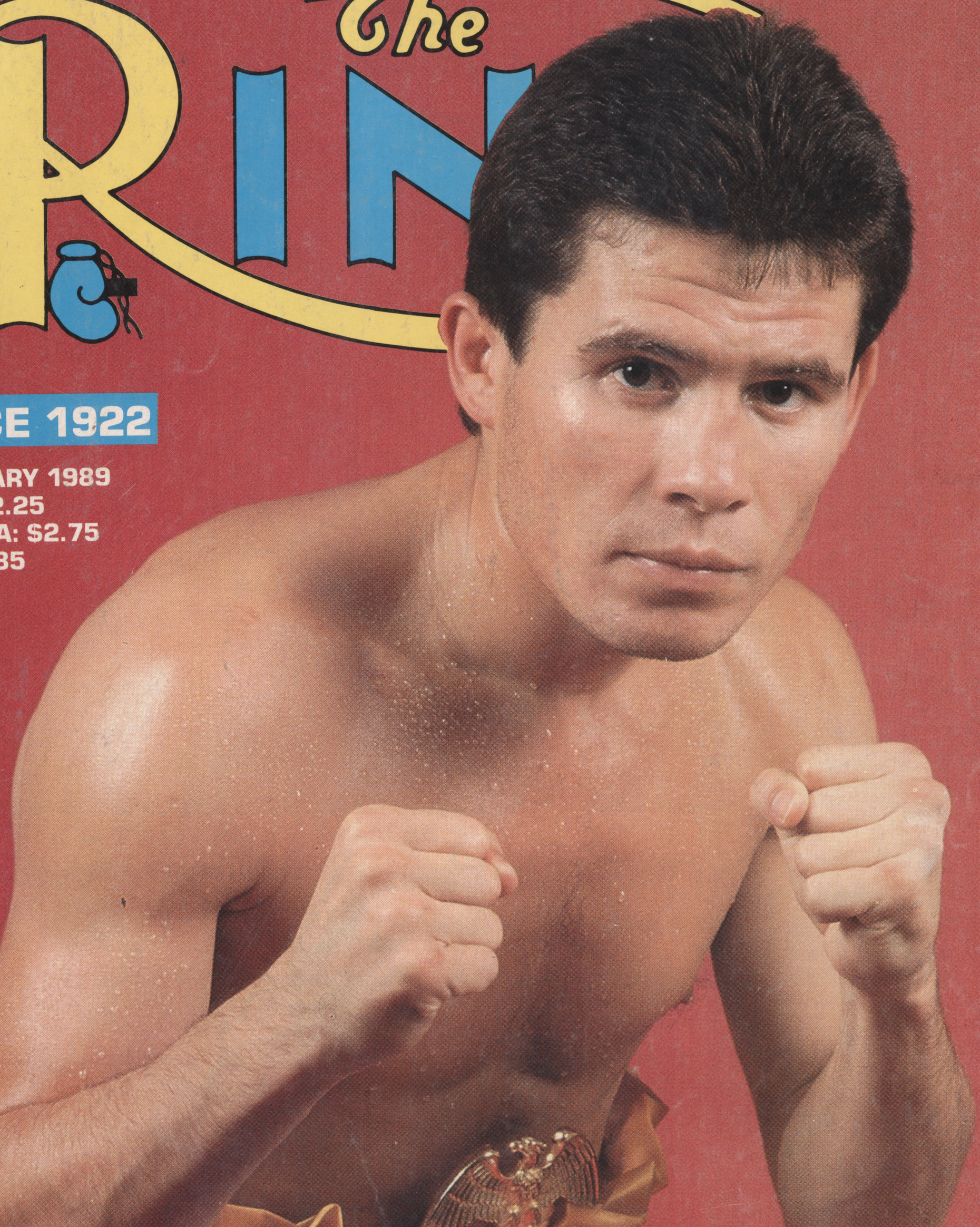
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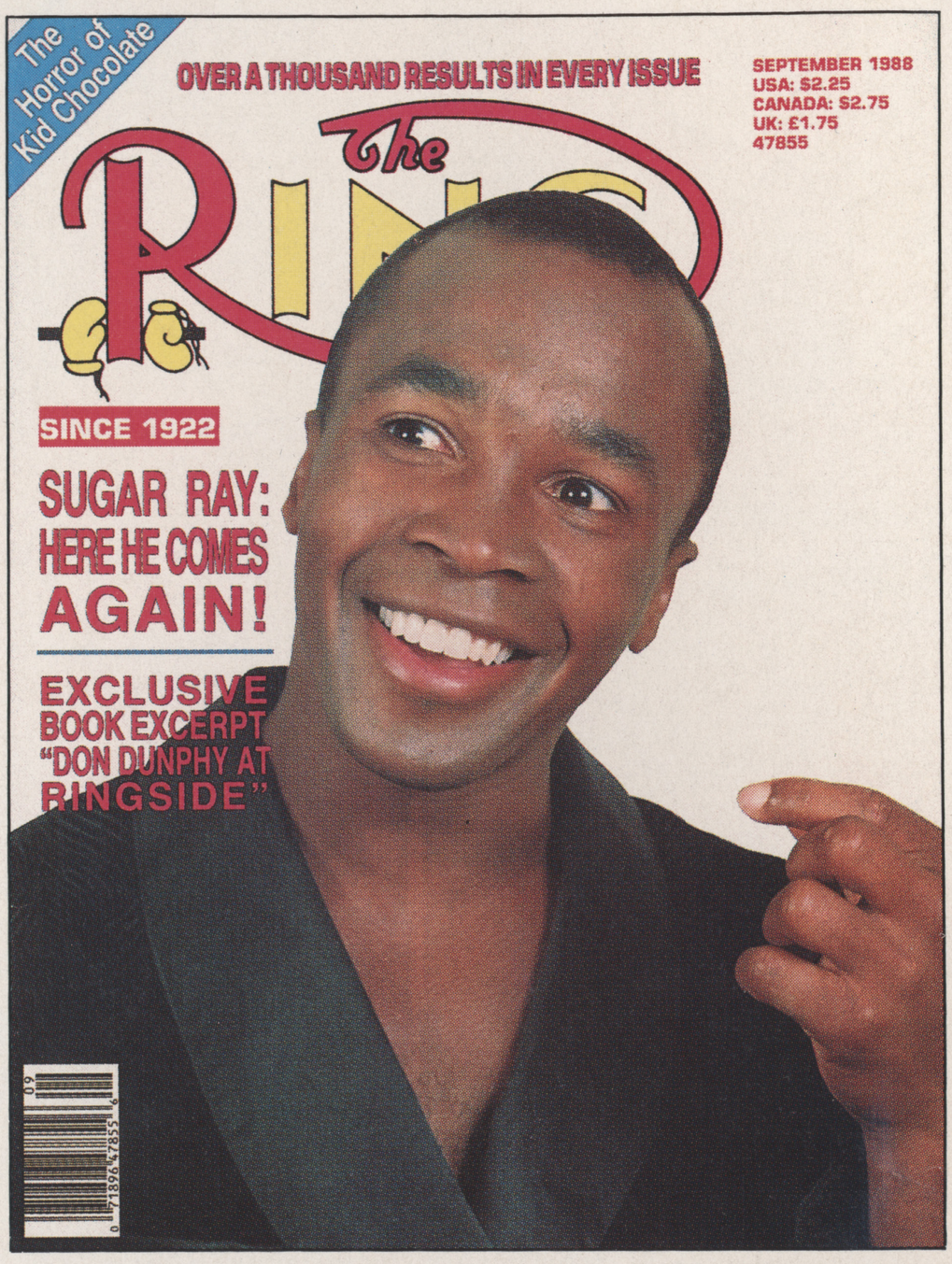


JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ

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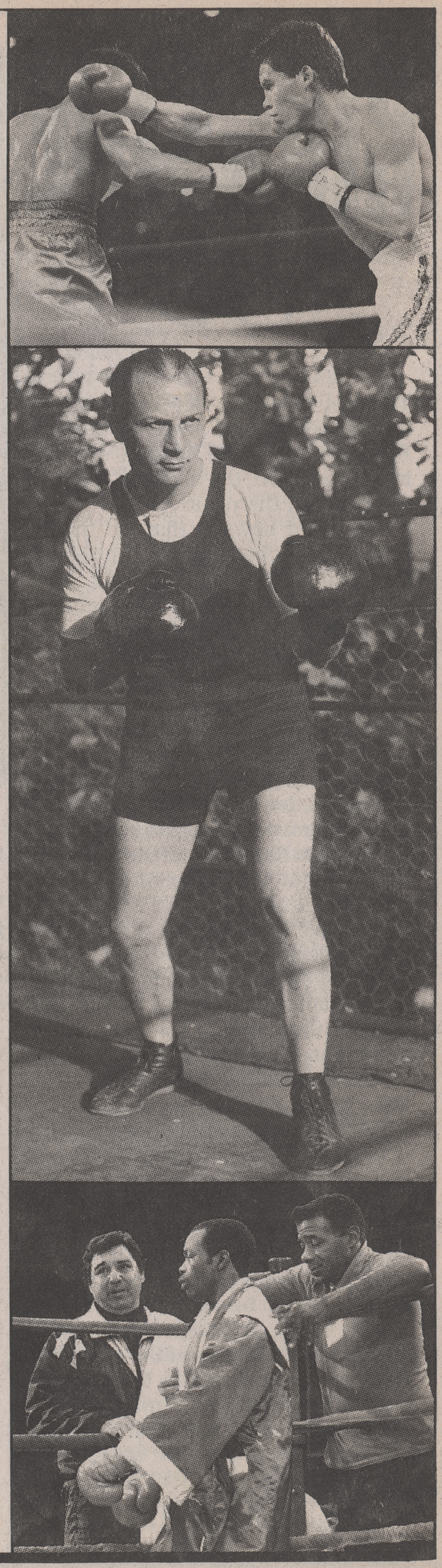
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The RING

The bible of boxing



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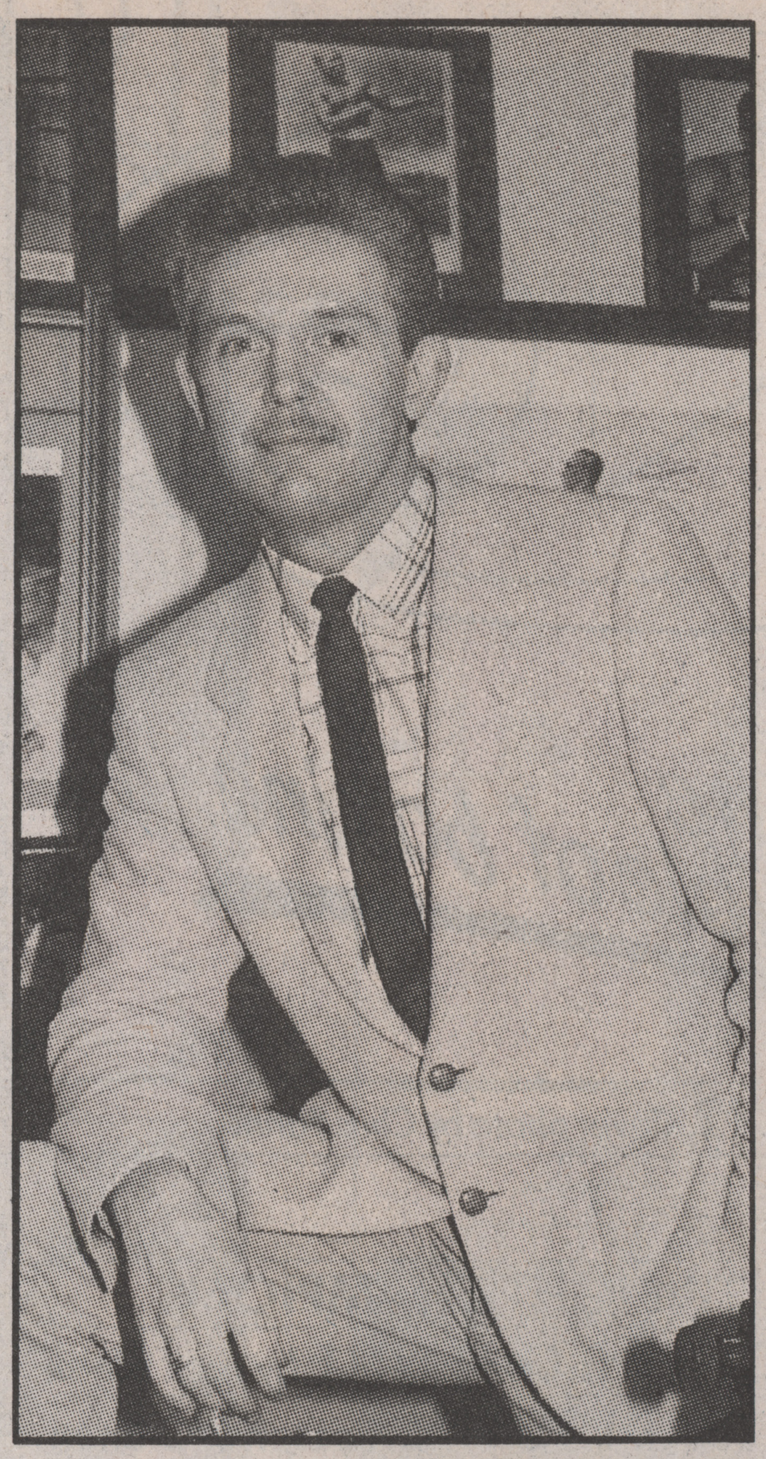
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RINGSIDE



The last week of October brought both good and bad news for boxing. But as is often the case in our beleaguered sport, the negative seemed to outweigh the positive.

The good news is that we finally have a true champion at the top of the lightweight division. As was stated in advance in our September '88 issue, *The Ring* recognizes the winner of the Julio Cesar Chavez-Jose Luis Ramirez bout as the genuine 135-pound champion. Chavez won the fight and can be seen wearing the belt symbolizing his championship on this month's cover.

Part of the bad news is that the belt mysteriously disappeared before Chavez and Ramirez had the opportunity to fight for it. Let me explain what happened:

In order to meet our deadline, it was necessary to have the cover photo taken prior to the match. More photographs were taken at the Las Vegas Hilton during the final press conference. One of these showed both boxers, along with Don King and Mike Tyson, posing with the belt. Moments later, in the hubbub which usually surrounds such occasions, the belt vanished, never to be seen again.

While *The Ring* is having another belt for Chavez manufactured, a far more serious aberration of recent vintage — the World Boxing Organization — won't be so easily rectified.

This latest, and most unwelcome, addition to the ranks of the Alphabet Boys is a bastard child born of the 1988 WBA convention in Venezuela. Apparently, a group of dissidents, led by Pepe Cordero, broke away from the parent organization when they failed in their bid to topple Gilberto Mendoza from the WBA throne and replace him with Luis Batista Salas.

Though early reports indicated the WBO was seriously considering limiting its ratings to the eight traditional divisions, this soon proved false when the fledgling organization sanctioned its first world title match — the so-called super middleweight championship bout between Tommy Hearns and James Kinchen.

To say we are at war to save boxing would not be overstating the case. The Alphabet disease is spreading like a plague, feeding on greed and corruption. Like society's life-and-death struggle against AIDS, lovers of the Sweet Science must prepare to fight the deadly acronyms ravaging the sport. It's a battle boxing can't afford to lose.

Nigel Collins

THE RING

February, 1989 Vol LXVII, No. 12

"The Bible of Boxing"
Established 1922 by
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COME OUT WRITING

MOORE TRIBUTE APPRECIATED

I RECENTLY READ JOHN REEVES' ARticle about the tragic death of Davey Moore and I was glad to see someone give Moore the respect he deserves. In other articles I've read about Moore, the author talked more about himself than about Davey. Although I'd only seen Moore on the downslide, I admired his talent and I was heartbroken when I learned of his death. Mr. Reeves' article was compassionate and recognized Moore for what he was — a good fighter who never quite fulfilled his promise.

RICK FISHER
Binghamton, N.Y.

BEST SINCE PEP!

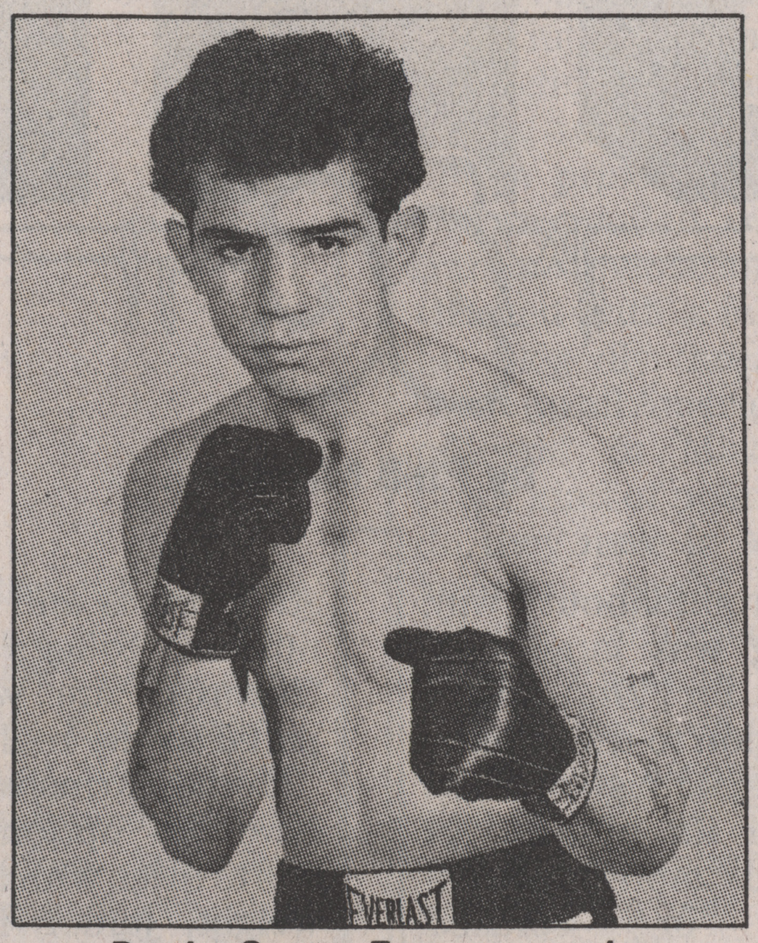
I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE EXCEPTION TO J.R. Jowett's review of the Orlando Canizales - Kelvin Seabrooks bantamweight title fight. Nowhere did he mention how completely Canizales outthought and outfought Seabrooks. Every time Seabrooks tried to go on the offensive, Canizales took a short step to the right and hammered Seabrooks to the head with a right hand. As a person who has watched championship fights for over 60 years, I haven't seen such good boxing since the early days of Willie Pep. Canizales gave such a beautiful performance that Mr. Jowett should have mentioned it.

WALTER E. MAGNOLIA
Ronkonkoma, N.Y.

Editor's Note: While Mr. Jowett may not have praised Canizales per se, he did give the bout high marks, calling it a "sensation" and a "near-classic."

TAKE ON THE PRETENDERS

YOU HAVE BEEN CRITICIZED BY your competition, who claim to care about boxing tradition. Yet the facts do not support their claim or criticism. Boxing Ill-Stated considers the super middle and the junior bantam classes to be legitimate? These divisions aren't even 10 years old! Fighting Harada didn't need a junior bantam division and Dick Tiger didn't need a



Reader George Turner remembers lightweight contender Johnny Busso in this month's "Come Out Writing.

super middle class. They also recognize the cruiser and junior fly classes, which haven't even been around for 15 years. Michael Spinks didn't need a cruiser division.

Fanatics like me know the truth, but what about the new boxing fans? *The Ring* needs to take these pretenders on just like you go after the Alphabet boys.

DONALD A. MILLER
Saginaw, MI

Editor's Note: Don, have a beer on us. And you know which one not to buy!

THE RING UNFAIR TO SPINKS?

HOW COULD YOU DO IT? HOW COULD you let down Michael Spinks after everything he has accomplished in boxing? In the November '88 issue of *The Ring* you simply ran a small paragraph about Spinks' retirement and printed several letters from disgusted fans. You even criticized Spinks for his performance (in the Tyson fight). There are other factors involved in who wins a fight besides who is the better boxer. On the night of the Tyson-Spinks fight, it was reported on national television that Spinks had been injured in training several months before the fight. They said the fight was only expected to go a round or two because of the severity of the injury. Apparently none of your staff heard about the injury, or you just didn't print it.

Spinks was the true heavyweight champion and he relied on *The Ring* to support his cause. He proudly wore *The Ring*'s championship belt into the ring that night and this is how you treat him! Spinks deserves a lot more credit for his contribution and for defying impossible odds several times. Do people take credit away from Muhammad Ali because he lost to Larry Holmes and Trevor Berbick? Do people take credit away from Joe Louis for losing to Rocky Marciano? Of course not. Then why are people narrow-minded and just look at this one loss instead of the countless spectacular fights in Spinks' career?

RICK MASON
Oklahoma City, OK

Editor's Note: Easy, Rick. Nobody here at THE RING has anything less than the highest regard for Michael Spinks as a man and a boxer. Don't forget, we rated him the second best light heavyweight champion in boxing history in our December '87 issue. As far as Spinks' alleged injury is concerned, Michael didn't use it as an excuse and neither will we.

BUSSO BOOSTER

A LARGE AMOUNT OF CREDIT should be given to Johnny Busso of Astoria. A fine lightweight, he defeated both your recent inductees into the Hall of Fame: Carlos Ortiz 6/27/58 and Joe Brown 11/5/58.

GEORGE TURNER
Astoria, New York

Editor's Note: You're quite right, Mr. Turner. Busso was a fine lightweight and did indeed beat both Ortiz and Brown. Unfortunately for Busso, both Ortiz and Brown avenged their losses in subsequent bouts. Following his decision loss to Brown in a 1959 title fight, Busso hit the skids and lost his next three fights via knockout.

ROUND ONE



by Phill Marder

HENRY ARMSTRONG

Henry Armstrong is gone. "Hammerin' Henry" passed away October 22, a victim of heart failure at the age of 75.

But while active, Armstrong's heart never let him down.

The career of Armstrong is briefly summarized in this issue's article on the lightweight champions. But Armstrong was much more than a lightweight champion. He was the only fighter to hold championships in three different weight divisions at the same time and was, along with Bob Fitzsimmons, one of just two men in history to hold legitimate world championships in three of the traditional eight weight divisions.

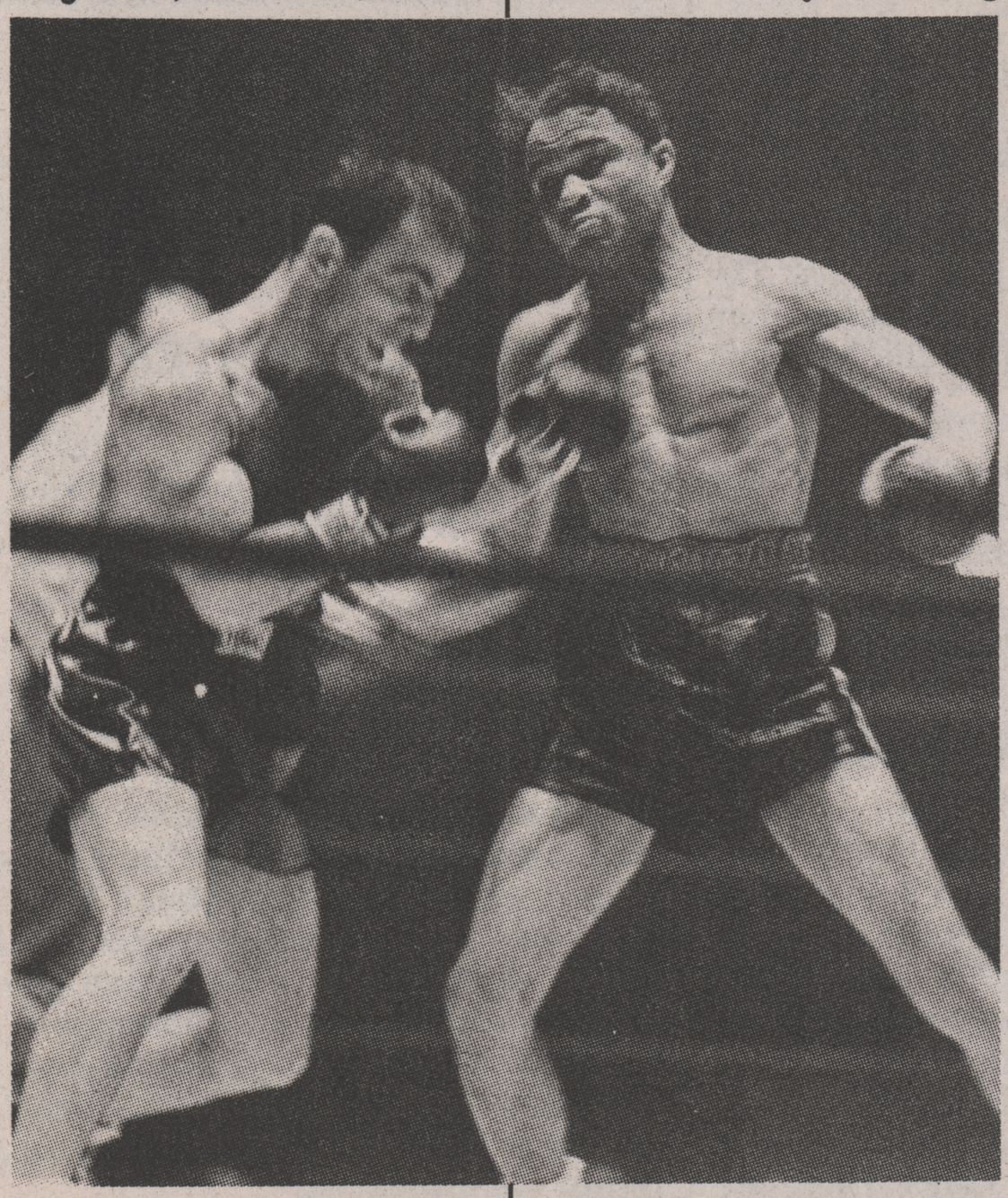
In a roundabout way, Armstrong was largely responsible for *The Ring*'s 1987 decision to revert back to the original eight weight classes in its ratings. As more and more fighters equaled or erased Armstrong's records, it became more obvious how ludicrous today's boxing structure is and how insignificant today's so-called "records" are when compared to the real thing.

Today, Armstrong would have 21 options to win world titles with the featherweight, junior lightweight or super featherweight, lightweight, junior welterweight or super lightweight, welterweight, junior middleweight and middleweight classes each having three champions. He had just four options.

Weighing 124, Armstrong won his first world championship by knocking out **Petey Sarron** for the featherweight crown. It was his 23rd bout of 1937 and the 92nd of his career! The knockout was his 16th straight in a string that eventually reached 27. The next division in line was the lightweight, the junior lightweight division having been relegated to the scrap heap by that time, but Armstrong looked past that to the welterweights. In 1938, he won that championship, beating **Barney Ross**, a member of *The Ring*'s Hall of Fame. Armstrong weighed just 133½ in that bout, so he could have claimed the junior welterweight championship, too, if he had desired since Ross was that division's last champion. Ross gave up the crown in 1935 and no one had claimed it since. But Armstrong didn't want it, either.

In his next fight, weighing 134, Armstrong took the lightweight crown from **Lou Ambers**, another Hall of Famer. In his first defense, he beat Ceferino Garcia, who, unable to beat Armstrong, moved to the middleweight class and won that world championship! In 1940, Armstrong, weighing 142, challenged Garcia for the 160-pound crown. The result was a draw! Garcia would also gain admission to *The Ring* Hall of Fame.

Some may argue it is unfair to judge other boxers against Armstrong as he was an exception to the rule. But that's exactly the point. Any man considered a world champion in three weight divisions — or two, for that matter — should be an exception. And Armstrong and his achievements should be remembered as such, not lumped in with the ever-growing list of multiple-title claimants who feast on synthetic divisions and partial titleholders.



Henry Armstrong (right) as he looked in his prime, battering Petey Sarron into a sixth-round defeat for the world featherweight title, October 29, 1937.

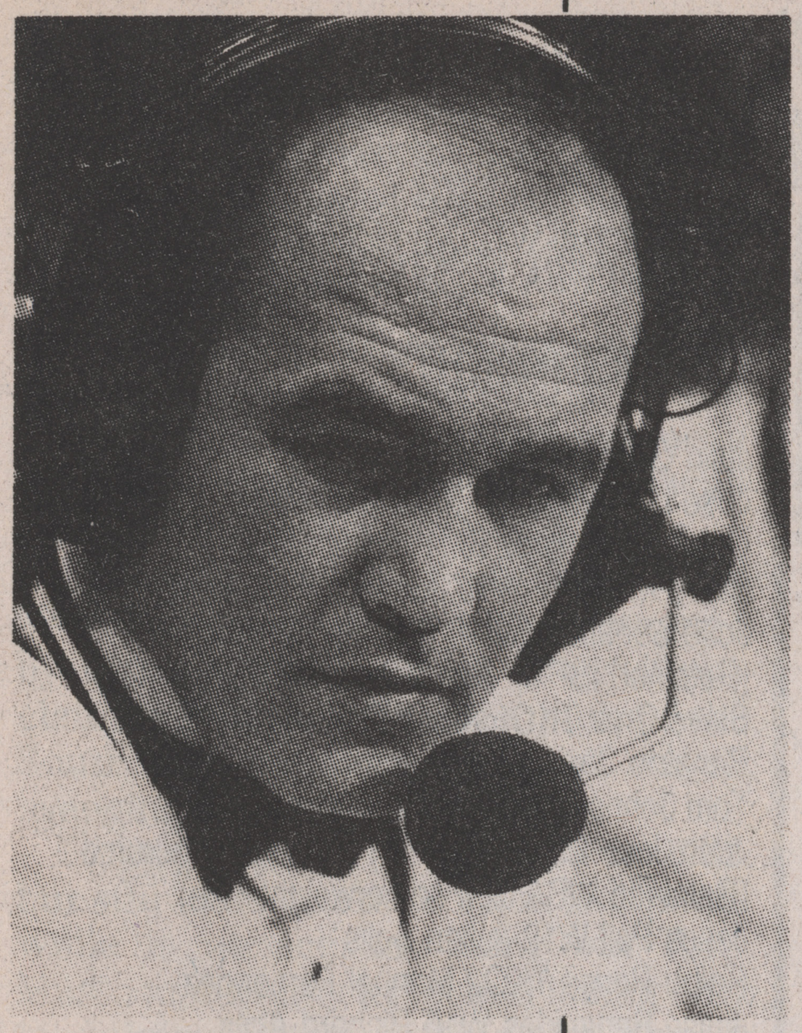
FROM A QUEEN TO A KING

Queen what's-her-name has abdicated. Let her eat cake.

But now heavyweight champion **Mike Tyson** seems to be firmly in the grasp of **Don King**. Don't these guys ever learn?

At least with King, Tyson should be fighting again — in the ring. How else can Don make this friendship worthwhile? And you can't get much further out of the public eye than Cleveland, where Tyson says he will move.

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



Trainer Kevin Rooney made an unforgettable debut as HBO's color commentator during the Chavez-Ramirez bout.

Meanwhile, in other Tyson developments:

• **Jimmy Kirkpatrick**, Tyson's father, has resurfaced in Brooklyn and desires a reconciliation with Mike.

• What's-her-name has become one of the most unpopular women in the United States, according to several polls, while Tyson seems to be growing in popularity. HBO spokesman **Quentin Schaffer** said, "His value is going up every day. From the gossip standpoint, he could fight a nobody right now and get huge ratings." That should make HBO feel more comfortable with the oft-postponed match with **Frank What's-his-name**.

• **Donald Trump** sent Tyson a $2 million bill. Trump says Tyson promised he'd donate the money to charities selected by Trump if Trump helped the champ get an out-of-court settlement in his contract dispute with manager **Bill Cayton**.

• Meanwhile, Cayton asked the New York Commission for a hearing to decide whether King has tampered with Tyson's contract.

• Trainer **Kevin Rooney**, in legal trouble for battles with his estranged wife and her boyfriend, made a wild debut as HBO color commentator for the **Chavez/Ramirez** fight. Rooney's refreshing candidness and enthusiasm often left **Jim Lampley** speechless, but amused. **Larry Merchant** could hardly get a word in.

• Tyson said he should have married **Suzette Charles**, the former Miss America. Charles knew Tyson less than two months before he married what's-her-name and hasn't spoken to him since. But stay tuned.

OOOOPS!

Contrary to what you read in the December Round One, **Grant Elvis Phillips** did not work with **Salvador Sanchez**. He worked with **Richie Sandoval**. Sorry, Grant.

Just goes to show ya', once in awhile you slip on some greasepaint. For instance, the last WBC ratings named **Roger Mayweather** fighter of the month. Only trouble is, they used **Harold Brazier's** picture!

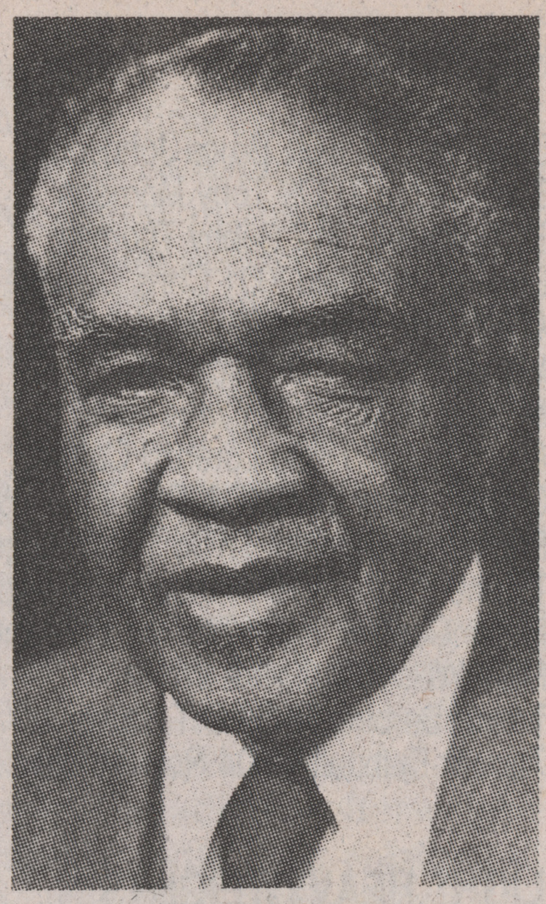
WHAT A CARD!

I've been meaning to get to this one for awhile now, so my apologies for the delay. **Johnnie Brown** recently released Set #6 of **Brown's Boxing Cards**. For info, write Brown's Boxing Cards, PO Box 117, Knob Noster, MO, 65336, or phone 816-563-3704.

ROSIN DUST

Crime watch: Promoter **Felix Tuto Zabala**, charged in international drug smuggling and money laundering scheme, faces up to life in prison ... **Roberto Duran**, pulled over for a traffic violation, was charged with a felony after he allegedly threatened to "beat up all American police officers" in Miami. What other kind of police officers do they have in Miami? ... Former world bantamweight champion **Bernardo Pinango** is facing trial in Miami on charges of aggravated assault, possession of cocaine, possession of drug paraphernalia and resisting arrest with violence ... Also in Florida, **Hector Camacho** pleaded no contest to charges of coke possession and was placed on probation ... **Al McCoy**, not the former middleweight champ but the McCoy who challenged **Joe Louis** for Louis' heavyweight championship in 1940, died recently at 76. Louis stopped McCoy in six rounds, but McCoy is listed in "Ripley's Believe It Or Not" for holding Maine state championships in every weight class ... A hearty welcome to **Angelo Prospero**, who joins us this issue as the "Veteran Boxer's Beat" columnist. Angelo is a fine writer, a lover of boxing and a positive addition to our staff. It took us awhile to find the right person to replace **Charlie Spina**, but we're sure Charlie would approve ... IBF Prez **Bob Lee** just about fully recovered from quadruple bypass surgery. Bobby may run the IBF, but he's still a nice guy and we wish him the best of health ... "The other" **Mike Tyson** has retired after winning just three of nine fights. This Tyson, a 29-year-old heavyweight from Iowa, always claimed to be the "real" Mike Tyson because he was born before the heavyweight champ ... HBO's first release of the Big Fights film catalog is "Mike Tyson's Greatest Hits," with lots more to come.

PHOTO BY JACK GOODMAN



The late, great Henry Armstrong as he looked a few years before his death.

PUNCH LINES

Emanuel Steward, speaking to **Bernard Fernandez** of *The Philadelphia Daily News*, concerning the comebacking **Matthew Saad Muhammad**.

"I was shocked by how good he looks ... With the current crop of light heavyweights, Matthew could be right back in the title picture with one or two fights. I think that's all he would need to get ready to beat the champions that are there now."

In his last start, Saad was stopped in the first round by **Frankie Swindell**. □

WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

HEAVYWEIGHTS

Oliver McCall KO1 Bruce Johnson
Bert Cooper TKO9 Tony Morrison
Bert Gravley W12 Bobby Thomas
Donnell Wingfield KO1 Chris Doolittle
Adilson Rodrigues KO1 Mark Lee
Michael Greer KO8 Rick Enis
Michael Dokes KO4 Curtis Isaac
Alex Stewart TKO4 Lorenzo Canady
George Foreman TKO2 Tony Fulilangi
Francesco Damiani TKO5 Tyrell Biggs
Tyrone Booze W10 Anthony Witherspoon
Pierre Coetzer TKO4 Manuel De Almeida
Mark Wills KO10 Mike White
Trevor Berbick TKO3 O.T. Davis
Taoufik Belbouli TKO4 Roy Saffold

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS

Charles Williams TKO 3 Rufino Angulo
(Retained IBF Title)
Graciano Rocchigiani TKO11 Chris Reid
(Retained IBF Super Middleweight Title)
Bobby Czyz W10 Leslie Stewart
Roddie McDonald KO4 Dave Fiddler
Walt Muhammad TKO5 Pat Strachan
Joe Lasisi W10 Uriah Grant
Frankie Swindell TKO1 Matthew Saad Muhammad
Arthel Lawhorn KO3 Eddie Mustafa Muhammad
Marcellus Allen W10 Juan Hernandez

MIDDLEWEIGHTS

Willie Wilson KO2 Abel Cordova
Reggie Barnes D12 Lester Yarbrough
John Mugabi TKO3 Mike Sachetti
Terry Norris W10 Gilbert Baptist
Vincent Pettway TKO2 Hugh Kearney
Tony Thornton TKO5 Tim Williams
Said Skouma KO3 Kevin Brazier
Steve Collins TKO4 Muhammad Shabbazz
Ron Essett W13 Sanderline Williams
Russell Williams W10 Ruben Villaman
Karama Leota TKO8 Herman Cavesuela
Gene Hatcher TKO6 David Maldonado

WELTERWEIGHTS

Simon Brown W12 Mauro Martelli
(Retained IBF Title)
Frankie Warren KO2 Charles Glover
Donovan Boucher TKO7 Pat McWilliams
Delfino Marin W12 Floyd Wells
Glenwood Brown KO4 Ariel Conde
Mark Breland TKO1 Ozzie O'Neal
John Breces D10 Budi Adiana
Victor Davis TKO7 Robin Blake
Harold Brazier TKO7 Jerry Brown
Mike Johnson W10 Robert Guy
John Wesley Meekins W10 Saoul Mamby
Joey Ferrell TKO8 Charlie "White Lightning" Brown
Jerry Page W10 Joe Walker
Adan Felix KO9 Jorge Rivera

Hector Camacho TKO4 Rick Souce
Yoshishiro Yamamoto W10 Alberto Lianeta
Engels Pedroza KO1 Othal Dixon
Sammy Fuentes KO2 Vincent Releford

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Julio Cesar Chavez Tech.Dec.11 Jose Luis Ramirez
(Won Vacant World Championship)
Greg Haugen TKO10 Gert Bo Jacobsen
(Retained IBF Title)
Armando Baeza W10 Gustavo Lopez
Lupe Suarez KO3 Ramon Flores
Juan Nazario TKO6 William White
Curtis Strong W10 Abraham Martinez
David Gonzales TKO5 Cedric Powell
Richie Otero W10 Aristedes Acevedo
Tracy Harris Patterson TKO1 Tony Hernandez
Orlando Fernandez KO7 Atilano Quinones
Edwin Rosario KO4 Juan Minaya
Tracy Harris Patterson TKO2 Mario Gonzalez
John Duplessis TKO7 Felix Dubray
Iwao Ohtomo KO4 Takeshito Nakano
Jeff Franklin KO6 Miguel Medina
Rogelio Lopez W10 Marino Ramirez
Sung-Hwan Moon W10 Fudai Michigami
Abe Gomez KO5 Kelvin Lampkins
Joe Ruelas KO6 Andre Smith

Tony Lopez W12 John John Molina
(Retained IBF Jr. Lightweight Title)
Primo Ramos W12 Victorio Belcher
Pernell Whitaker TKO4 Antonio Carter
Brian Mitchell W12 Jim McDonell
(Retained WBA Jr. Lightweight Title)

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Julio Gervacio TKO4 Chris Diaz
Jose Luis Vegagil TKO4 Jeff Hanna
Gerardo Martinez KO1 Jesus Muniz
Steve McCrory W10 Juan Ramon Muriel
Jose Sanabria KO10 Fabrice Benichou
(Retained IBF Jr. Featherweight Title)
Steve Cruz TKO1 Amos Cowart
Renaldo Carter W10 Edgar Garcia
Tom Johnson KO9 Jose Saldana
Juan Jose Estrada TKO11 Takuya Muguruma
(Retained WBA Jr. Featherweight Title)
Jesus Poll W12 Julian Solis
Ralph Reyes TKO2 Manuel Fernandez
Jesse Benavides W10 Richard Abila
Maurizio Stecca TKO2 Rocky Lawlor
Mark Horikoshi TKO4 Atsushi Oyakama
Frankie Duarte W10 Miguel Juarez
Jesus Poll W10 Allan Makitoki

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Kaosai Galaxy TKO8 Chang-Ho Choi
(Retained WBA Jr. Bantamweight Title)
Juan Carazo W12 Santos Laciar
Raul Perez W12 Miguel Lora
(Won WBC Title)
Redigildo Conceicao W10 Paulo Ribeiro
Simon Skosana W10 Jerome Coffee

FLYWEIGHTS

Duke McKenzie TKO11 Rolando Bohol
(Won IBF Title)
Akri Suryaman W10 Udin
Tony DeLuca W10 Abraham Garcia
Hideyuki Ohashi KO3 Romy Ceniza
Rocky Lin W10 Norikazu Kawana

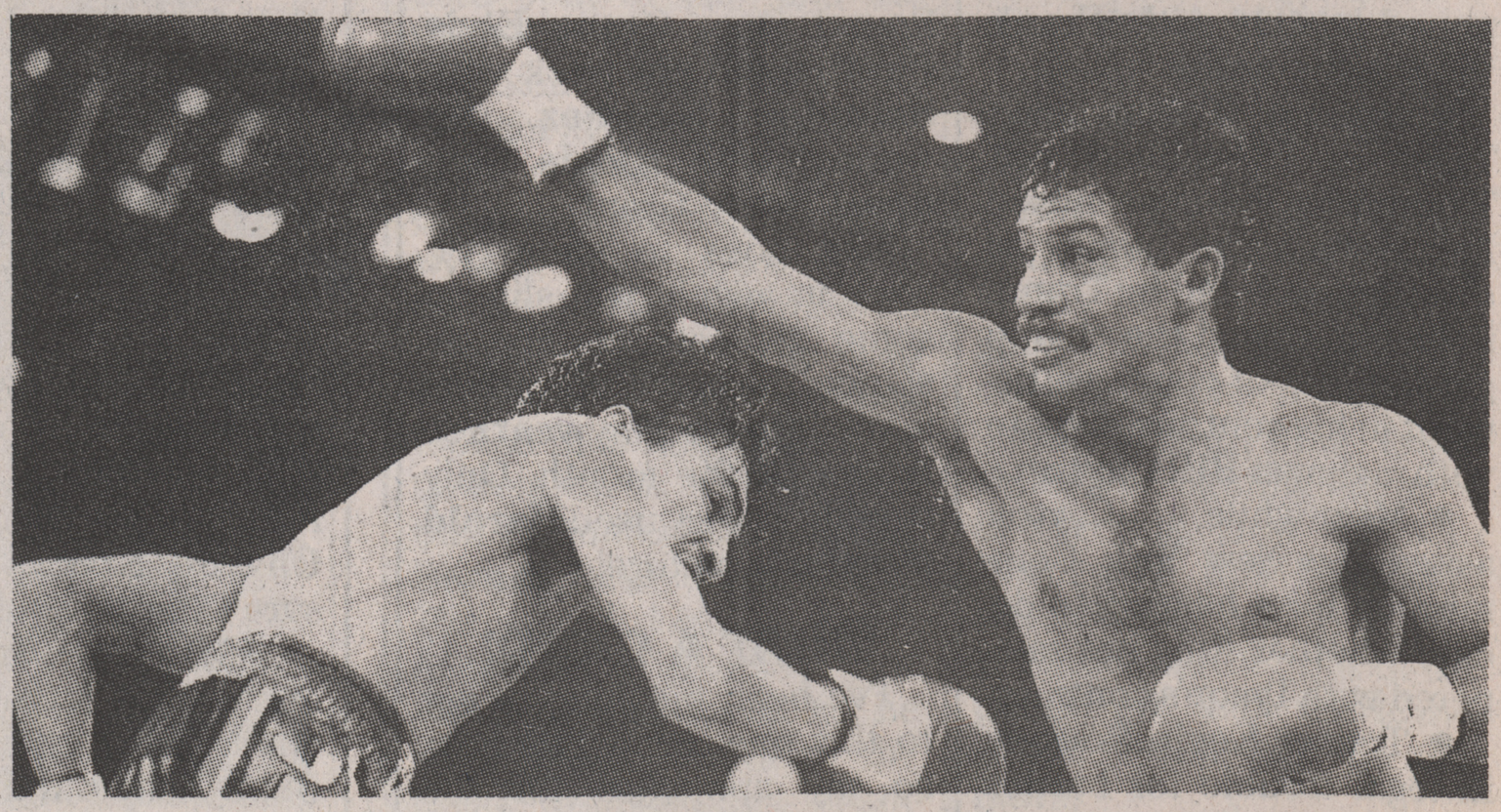


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Raul Perez (left) and Miguel "Happy" Lora slug it out for the WBC bantamweight title on the Chavez-Ramirez bill. Perez won the belt via a unanimous decision.

VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

by Angelo Prospero

"Tampa" Tommy Gomez

"TAMPA" TOMMY GOMEZ WAS ONE OF the hardest punchers ever in the heavyweight division. He fought from 1939 when he kayoed Jack Wallace until 1950 when he lost a 10-round decision to Bob Satterfield.

Gomez had 87 fights, winning 76 with 64 KOs, a knockout percentage of .735. Twenty-eight of his starch jobs came in either the first or second round with another 21 coming in Round Three.

Undefeated in his first 33 contests, 26 by knockout, his streak was stopped by veteran Buddy Scott, the self-proclaimed heavyweight champion of the South. Gomez started another streak, avenging the loss to Scott.

Gomez enlisted in the Army in 1942, but still managed to work in five bouts while in service, knocking out Tony Musto and Buddy Knox and losing only to Johnny Flynn in Madison Square Garden.

Sent overseas in 1944, Gomez was a highly decorated infantryman who was severely wounded as the Yanks were crossing the Ruhr River, suffering 16 bullet and shrapnel wounds.

Upon discharge he returned to the fistic wars, reeling off six consecutive knockouts and garnering an elimination title bout with the resurrected Jersey Joe Walcott, the number one contender.

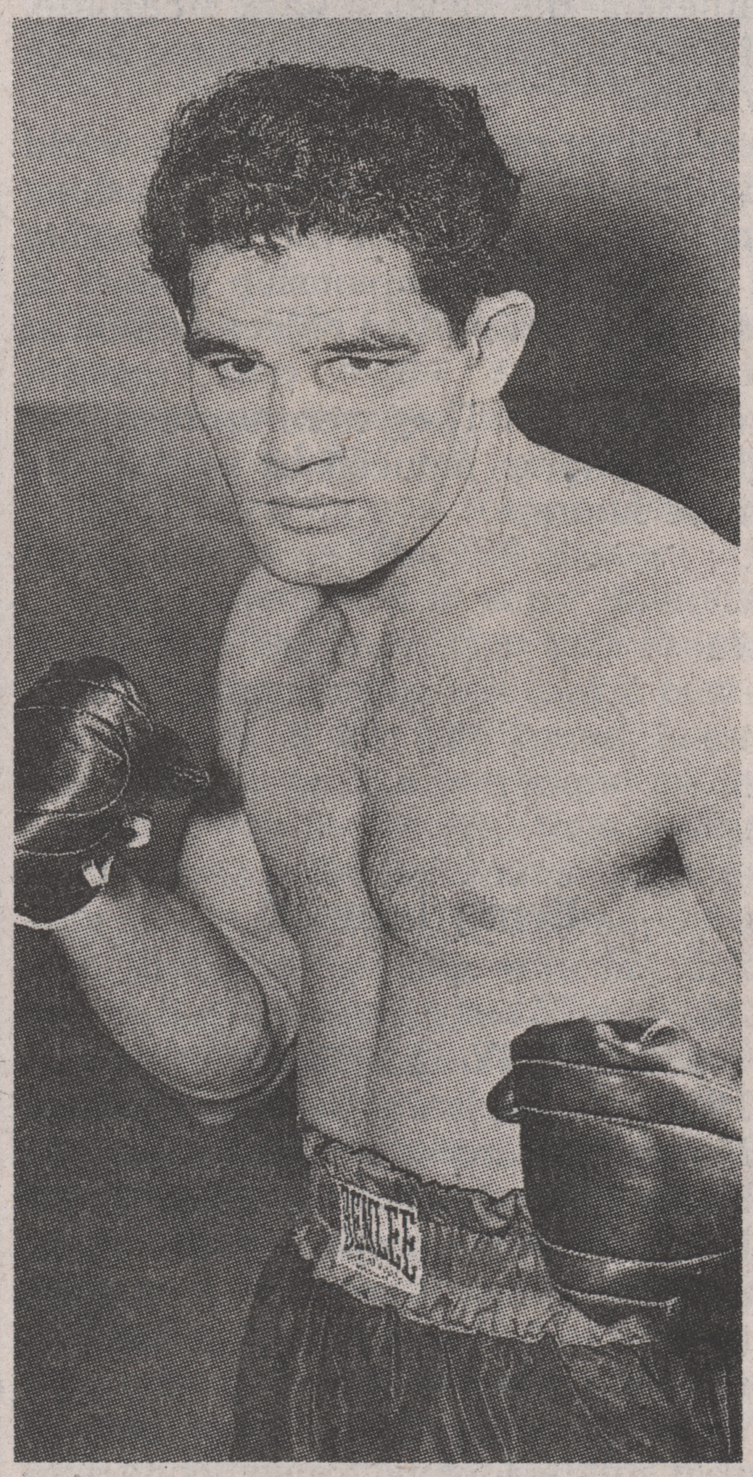
The fight was strictly no contest as the cagey Walcott made the lunging Gomez miss with his haymakers and then countered with smashing blows stopping him in three rounds. After a following loss to Joe Matisi, Gomez announced his retirement November 4, 1946.

However, the following March, he made a comeback and scored 10 straight knockouts. Included among his victims were former conquerors Buddy Scott, Johnny Flynn, and Joe Matisi. Lee Oma put a halt to his winning ways, but Gomez won 11 with nine kayos, drew one and lost one in his next 13 bouts.

However, he lost a slugfest to hard-punching Bob Satterfield and called it a career.

Gomez went on to the securities and investment business after boxing and recently retired. The proud father of four girls, he spends time these days with his new hobby, making cigars.

Drop him a line at 6426 El Dorado Drive, Tampa, Florida, 33615. He'll be glad to hear from you.



AROUND THE VETERAN BOXERS SCENE

The Rhode Island Chapter of the National Italian Sports Hall of Fame honored Ralph "Ripper" Zannelli, New England slugger of the 1940s, who battled eight world champions . . . The Syracuse Sports Hall of Fame paid tribute to Al Wertheimer, first ever Syracuse U. athlete to win an NCAA championship. Al was undefeated in his three years on the boxing team at Syracuse . . . Former lightweight champion Lou Ambers is recovering nicely from hip surgery at his Phoenix, Arizona home . . . Abe Greene, the one-time President of the National Boxing Association, died at age 89 . . . Tony Unitas' Canadian Boxing Hall of Fame honored former heavyweight great Jimmy Bivins and Lenox Lewis, Canadian Gold Medal winner at the 1988 Olympics, at the group's annual October dinner . . . Sammy Luftspring, former Canadian welterweight champion, and his wife Elsie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary . . . The Rochester Boxing Association will honor fight historian Hank Kaplan at their May 6th dinner. Nello Nucelli, welterweight sensation around the western N.Y. area before World War II, will be honored as Man of the Year . . . Ring 44 of Buffalo has not had a president since Jim Harkins died last year. Joe Gimbrone and Tommy Stenhouse would like to get the organization reactivated.

Steve Acunto's Boxerama VIII was held at the Rye Hilton Hotel Nov. 13. Honored was recently retired heavyweight champion Michael Spinks. Other honorees were Pete Della, Carole Castellano, Harry Warren and Golden Gloves champions Davey Villar and Joey De Guardia . . . If you are on the New York State Thruway, stop off at the Canastota Exit 32 to view the beautiful Carmen Basilio-Billy Backus outdoor exhibit featuring statues, memorabilia and video tapes of the two welterweight champions from that city. They are also related, with Carmen being Billy's uncle. Carmen, an employee of Genesee Brewery in Rochester, NY in their public relations department, is recovering nicely from an arterial blockage at his new home in Rochester. Backus still resides in Canastota . . . Cal Cagni of Ring 20 in Kearney, New Jersey and Fred Patuna, veteran NYSAC official, head out to the warmer climate of Florida, while referee and judge John Milicich makes his winter home in Arizona.

If you have any notes on veteran boxing organizations or boxers, please send them to Angelo Prospero, 32 Palamino Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. □

"Another Leonard Tops Duran"

THE RING RATES THE LIGHTWEIGHT CHAMPIONS

HISTORICALLY, THE LIGHTWEIGHT DIVISION HAS BEEN SCHIZOPHRENIC.

It has been a division populated by some of the biggest stars of boxing, but some, Beau Jack for example, never stamped a true claim on the world lightweight championship. At the same time, many of the 31 men who have ruled the world's 135-pounders are easily forgettable.

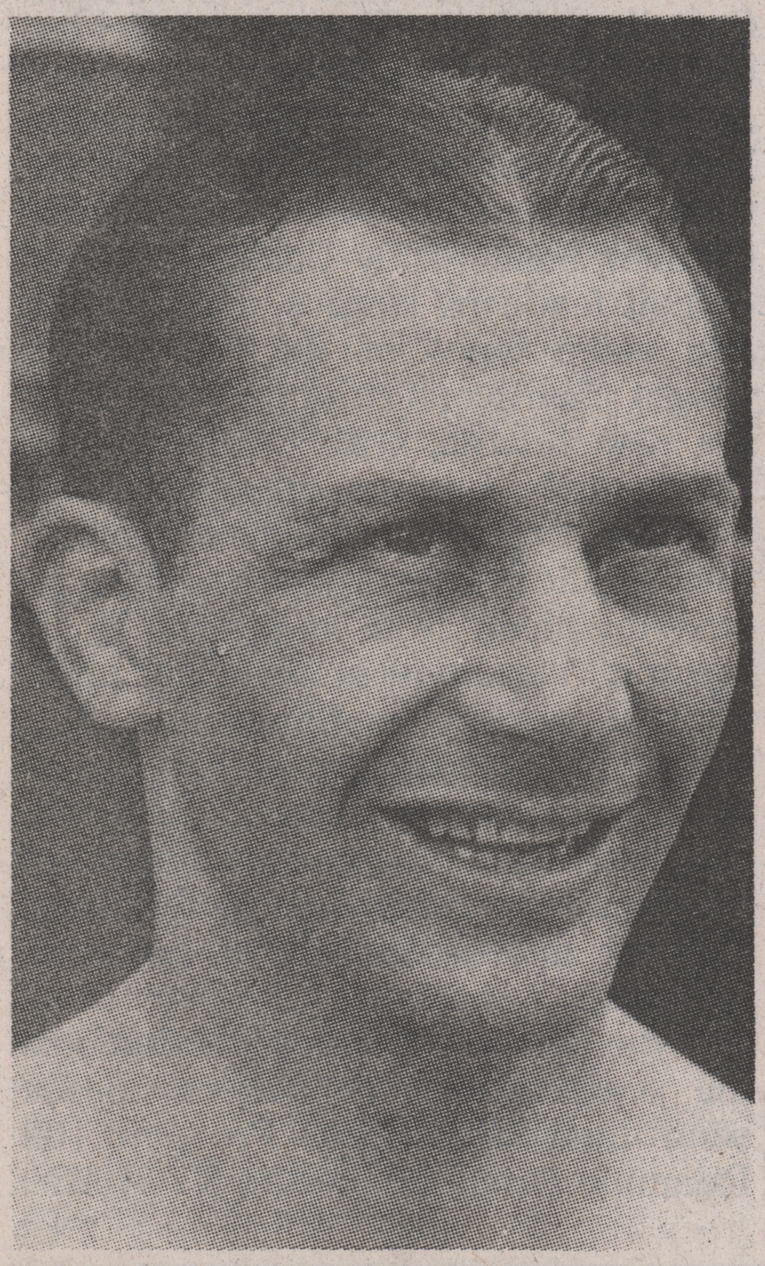
It has been a division that has gone through streaks of great popularity with stirring rivalries creating legends. And at times it has been a division with no direction, no leadership.

Until the Julio Cesar Chavez/Jose Luis Ramirez bout, the world championship sat vacant for almost six years. Several staked claims to the throne via the WBC, WBA and IBF, but until the recent Mexican unification, no one made an effort to establish clear-cut dominance.

The newest champion is not included in our latest survey as he has yet to have the opportunity to establish his greatness in the division. Jack McAuliffe, recognized by some as the first king of the lightweights, is also omitted as he was primarily pre-Marquis of Queensbury Rules.

Again, it should be remembered that every fighter rated here was a true world champion, thus a cut above most of the fighters in history. Therefore, finishing at the tail end of this survey still puts one ahead of most of the lightweights who have stepped into the ring. Rating 31 men of championship caliber is difficult to say the least, but *The Ring* has tried to present an objective look at an intriguing cast of characters.

Oh, by the way. You didn't miss the welterweights. They were up next, but the recent crowning of a new lightweight champion induced us to skip the 147-pounders for now. They'll be along in the future.



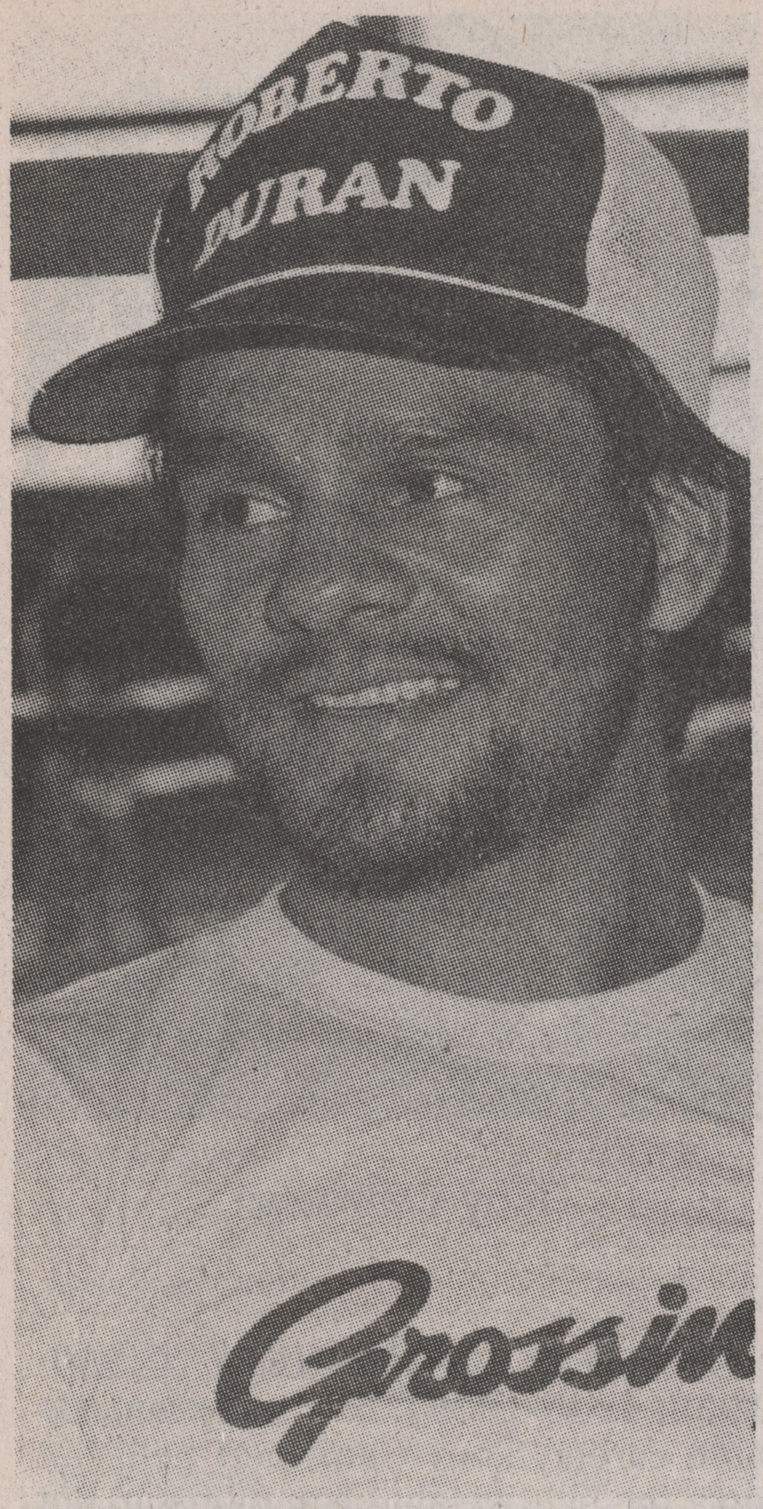
Benny Leonard

1. BENNY LEONARD (1917-1925): Once, it was so simple. Either Benny Leonard or Joe Gans was the best lightweight who ever lived. Leonard had the proper outlook on the matter, saying, "If you have to go back that far to find someone who can beat me, I'm not worried."

Could Benjamin Leiner have known we'd still be looking for someone who could beat him 64 years later?

There are not many left who saw Leonard in the flesh. But those who did won't forget him, and those who didn't should try to check him out on film. He was a fighter who could do it all, and he did, holding the lightweight championship longer than any other man. He won the title May 28, 1917, stopping the brilliant Freddie Welsh in nine rounds. He never lost the championship, retiring in 1925.

During his reign, Leonard defended successfully five times. But he fought almost every other week, and was unbeaten for a 10-year run (169 fights!). True, those were the no decision days, when you just had to finish standing to avoid a loss. But Leonard didn't lose officially until he knocked down welterweight champion Jack Britton, then disqualified himself by hitting Britton when he was down. Overall, Leonard was 86-5-1 with 121 no decisions and 69 KOs. Two of his losses came at age 15, one at age 16 and his final defeat was to the great Jimmy McLarnin, ending the comeback of a 36-year-old Leonard. Leonard's record against other lightweight champions: Kansas (ND10); Welsh (ND10); Welsh (ND10); Welsh (TKO9); Ritchie (ND4); Ritchie (TKO8); Kansas (ND10); Kansas (W15); Kansas (TKO8). Leonard died in 1947 at age 51. He was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1955.



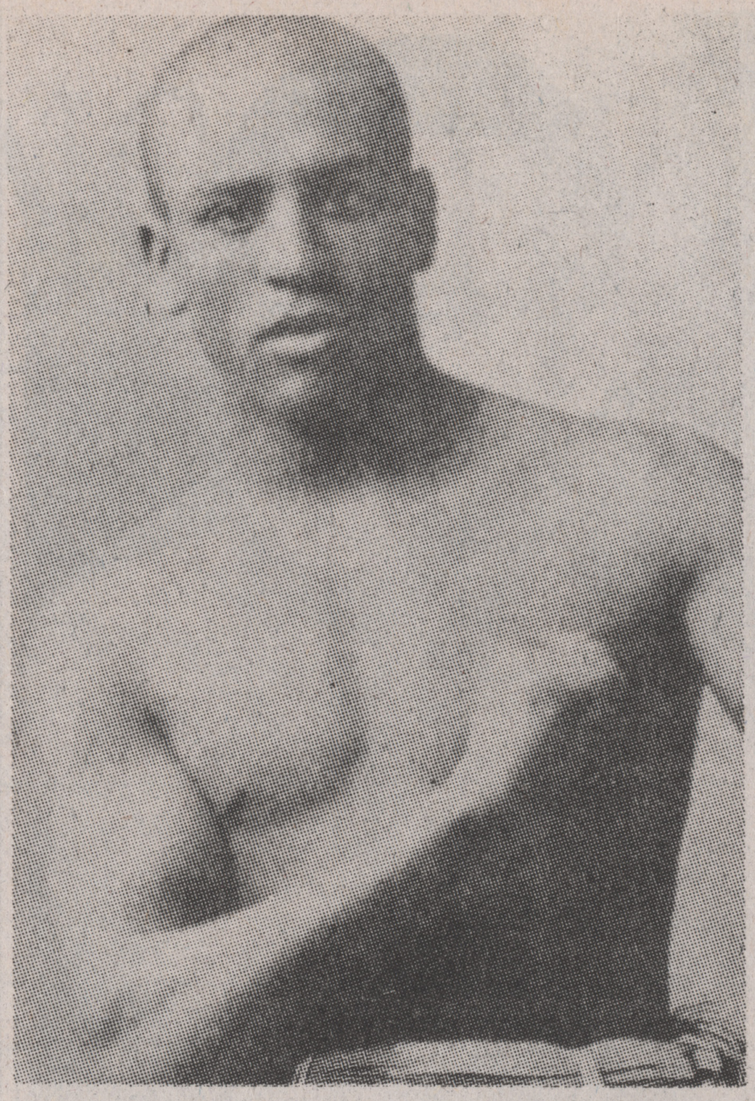
Roberto Duran

2. ROBERTO DURAN (1972-1979): Though Duran is still active, we have decided to include him in our survey as it is reasonably safe to assume his lightweight days are long over.

If Manos de Piedra had desired, he probably could have snapped Leonard's record seven year, seven and one-half month reign as lightweight champion. Instead, Duran gave up his title after holding it just four months short of seven years. Just over a year later, he was the world welterweight champion.

Duran won the lightweight championship from another fine champion, Ken Buchanan. He made 12 successful title defenses and, like Leonard, fought often in non-title engagements.

A tremendous puncher, Duran numbers 60 KOs in his 84-7 record. Somewhat overshadowed by his potent offensive skills is Duran's defense and ring intelligence. His record against other lightweight champions: Buchanan (TKO13).



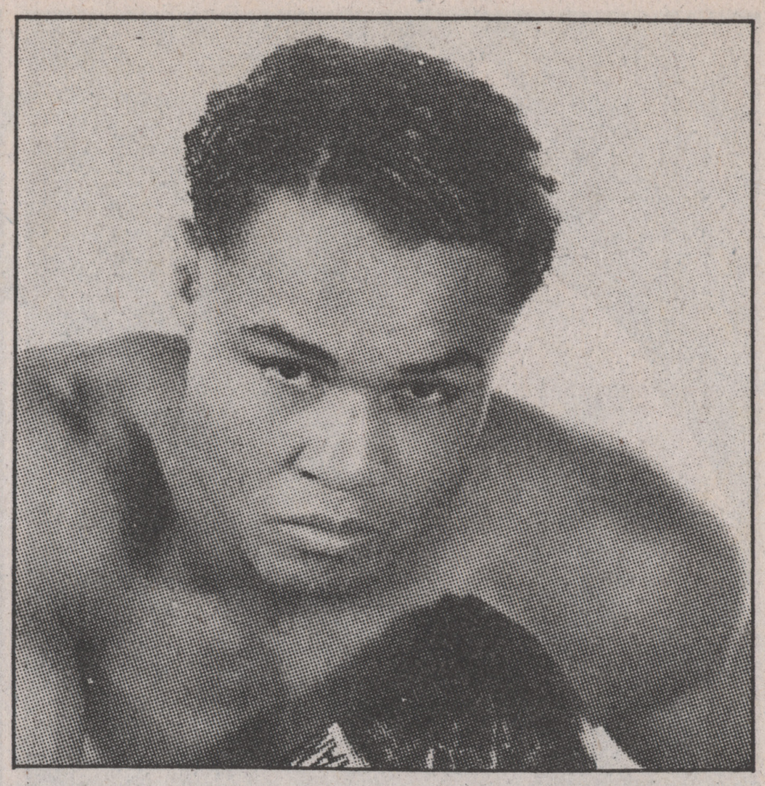
Joe Gans

3. JOE GANS (1902-1908): While younger fans might say Leonard couldn't have beaten Duran, real old, old-timers might tell you Benny couldn't have topped Joseph Gaines, better known as "The Old Master."

Gans participated in some dubious affairs. In 1900, he tried to take Frank Erne's championship, but took a beating and quit in the 12th round. Later that year, he took a two-round swim against Terry McGovern, thus losing some points in the determination category. But in a rematch with Erne, Gans won the championship with his first punch, the bout lasting just 50 seconds.

Gans was a busy champion, defending successfully 14 times. So dominant was Gans white fighters fought for the "white lightweight championship," which Jimmy Britt eventually won. Gans beat Britt on a foul and stopped him in a rematch.

Aging and sick, Gans finally lost his championship to Battling Nelson in 17 rounds. He was stopped by Nelson in 21 rounds in a rematch, fought just once more and died less than a year later at age 35. His final record was 120-8-10 with 18 no decisions and 85 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Erne (TKOby12); Erne (KO1); Nelson (WF42); Nelson (KOby17); Nelson (KOby21). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1954.



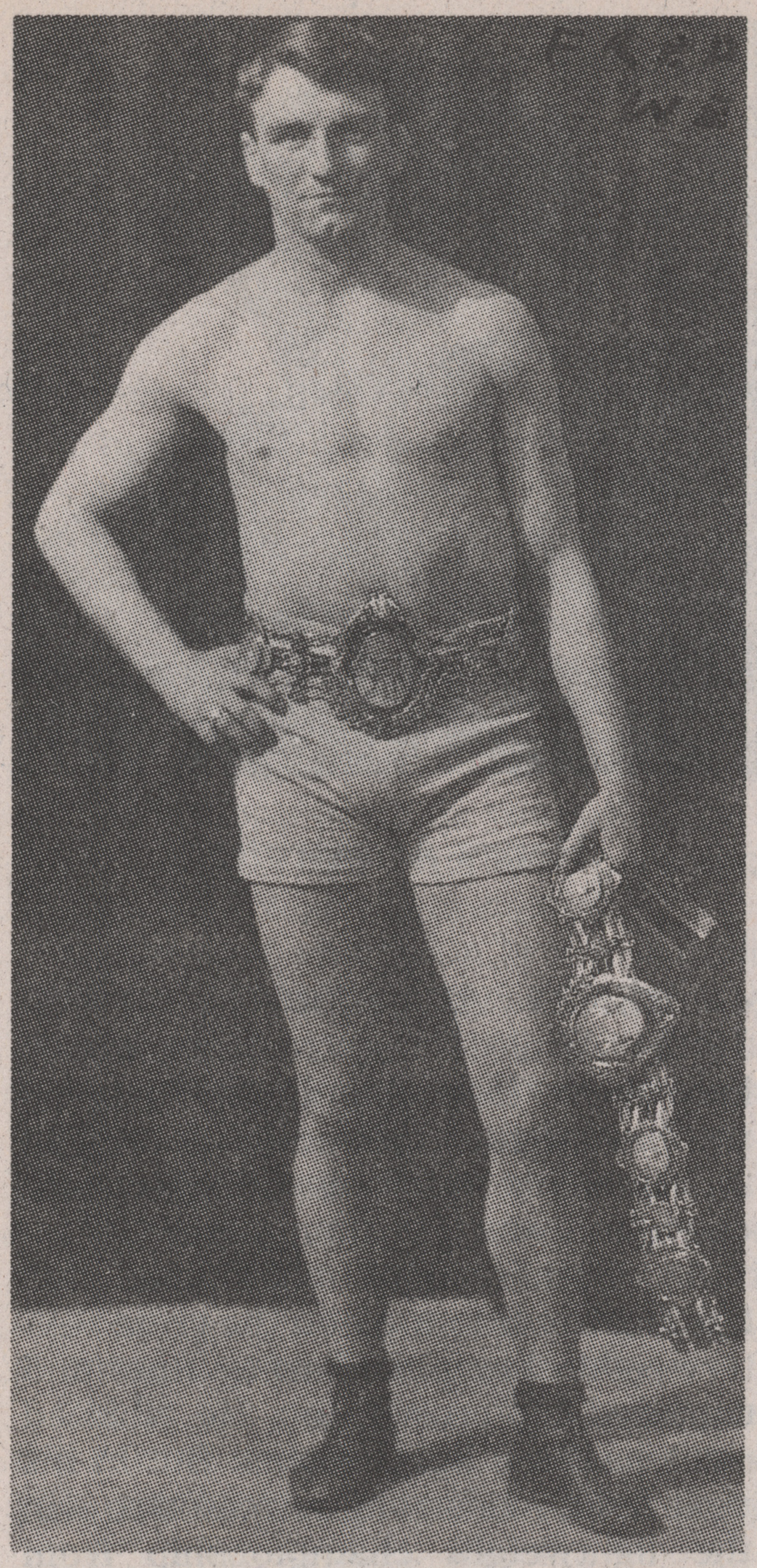
Henry Armstrong

4. HENRY ARMSTRONG (1938-1939): While Henry Jackson, better known as "Homicide Hank," may be the best fighter, pound-for-pound, of all time, his mark as a lightweight champion was less than distinctive.

As featherweight champion, this fighting tornado took on the great welterweight champion Barney Ross and captured his crown, too. He whizzed right past the lightweights. But in his next fight, Armstrong retreated to win the lightweight championship from Lou Ambers. Though he relinquished his featherweight laurels soon after, for a spell Armstrong was the only boxer in history to hold three world championships at the same time and he remains, along with Bob Fitzsimmons, one of just two fighters to win true world championships in three of the original eight weight classes.

However, Armstrong concentrated on defending his 147-pound crown, ignoring the lightweight championship until he granted a rematch to Ambers, who won the title back on points. Armstrong continued to defend his welterweight championship and narrowly missed winning the middleweight crown, fighting a 10-round draw with champion Ceferino Garcia.

Armstrong finished his incredible career 152-21-8 with 100 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Ross (W15); Ambers (W15); Ambers (L15); Jenkins (TKO6); Jenkins (KO8); Angott (W10). Armstrong was named *The Ring's* Fighter of the Year in 1937 and was named to the magazine's Hall of Fame in 1954. Died recently at 75.

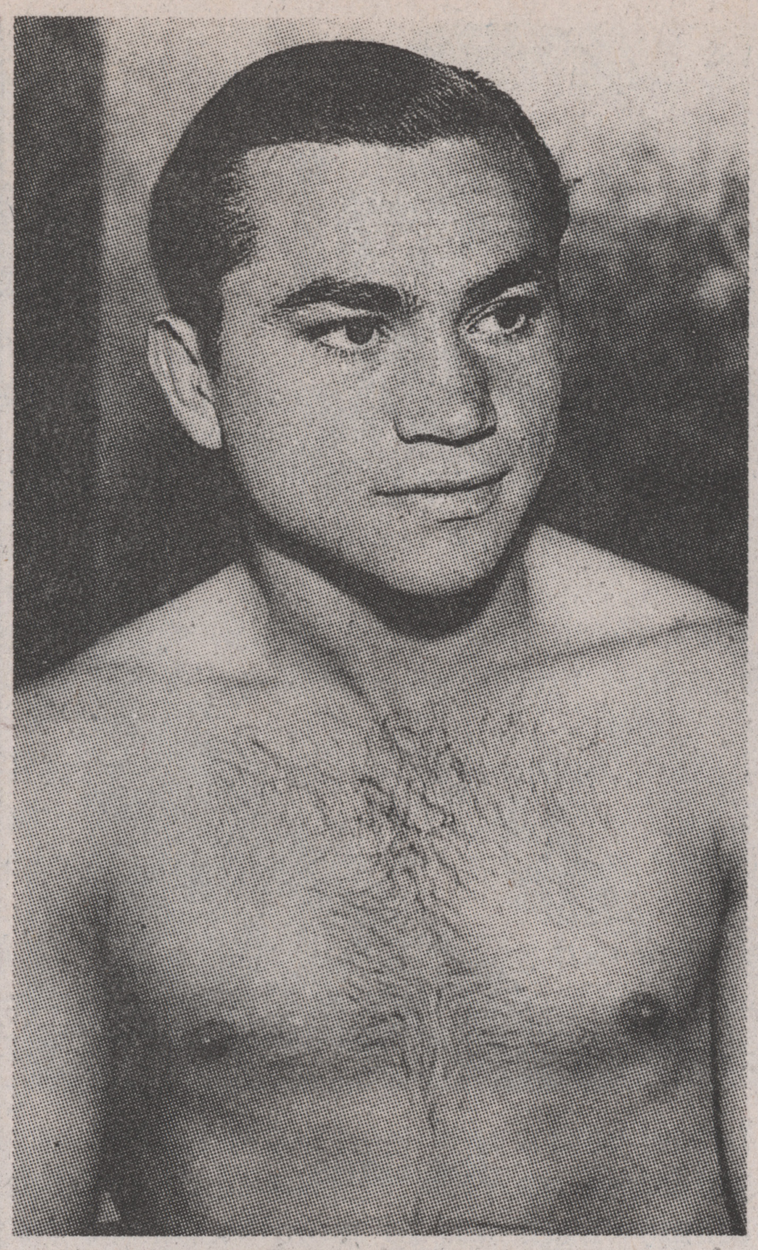


Freddie Welsh

5. FREDDIE WELSH (1914-1917): If Leonard hadn't come along, who knows how long Frederick Hall Thomas, "The Welsh Wizard," would have held his crown.

The stylish British champion won his championship in London by outpointing Willie Ritchie, but never again fought in Britain, campaigning instead in North America. He defended his championship just twice, but fought often and was unbeaten in over five years when he fell to Leonard for his only KO loss in 163 bouts.

Welsh retired after losing his championship, but made a brief comeback only to suffer two of his five losses. He won 71 times, 30 by KO, drew five and had 82 no decisions. His record against other lightweight champions: Ritchie (W20); Ritchie (W20); Wolgast (WF11); Leonard (ND10); Nelson (ND12); Kansas (ND10); Leonard (TKOby9). Welsh died in 1927 at the age of 41. Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1960.

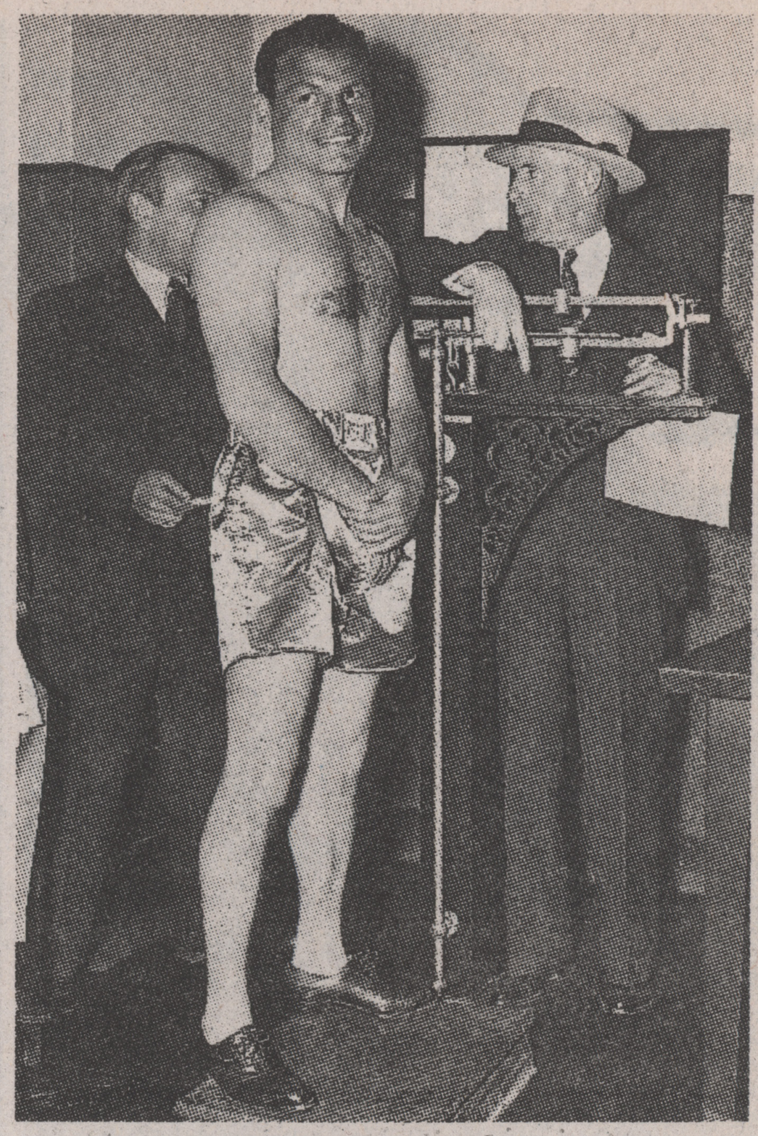


Barney Ross

6. BARNEY ROSS (1933-1935): Beryl David Rosofsky, "The Pride of the Ghetto," was the first lightweight champion to move up and capture the welterweight crown. He also is the only lightweight champion to be named *The Ring's* Fighter of the Year twice (1934 and 1935).

He won the lightweight championship, outpointing the great Tony Canzoneri in 10 rounds. Canzoneri's junior welterweight championship was included in the booty. If Ross was around today, he'd be one of those guys shooting for his 14th world title. Ross defended his 135-pound championship just once, outpointing Canzoneri again, this time over 15 rounds, before giving it up to concentrate on heavier opponents.

Though his reign as ruler of the lightweights was brief, Ross' two wins over Canzoneri are enough to establish his greatness at 135 pounds. Ross compiled a record of 72-4-3 with two no decisions and 22 knockouts. He was never stopped. His record against other lightweight champions: Canzoneri (W10); Canzoneri (W15); Armstrong (L15). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1956. Died in 1967 at the age of 58.



Tony Canzoneri

7. TONY CANZONERI (1930-1933, 1935-1936): In a truly remarkable career, Tony Canzoneri held not only the lightweight championship but the featherweight and junior welterweight championships as well. He also is the first fighter to win the lightweight championship twice.

Canzoneri's biggest problem as a lightweight was that he couldn't get a decision over Ross. In his first stint as lightweight king, he defended four times successfully and what a list of opponents ... Jack "Kid" Berg twice, Kid Chocolate and Billy Petrolle. At the same time, he won, lost and rewon the junior welterweight title and defended that several times, sharing *The Ring's* Fighter of the Year honors with Ross in 1934. When Ross vacated the lightweight throne, Canzoneri beat Lou Ambers to win it back. He made one successful defense before losing it to Ambers.

Canzoneri finished 137-24-10 with four no decisions and 44 KOs. He was stopped just once, in his final fight. His record against other lightweight champions: Singer (D10); Mandell (L10); Singer (KO1); Ross (L10); Ross (L15); Ambers (W15); Ambers (L15); Ambers (L15). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1956, Canzoneri died in 1959 at the age of 51.

CHARTING THE CHAMPS

	Defense	Determination	Durability	Hand Speed	Foot Work	Punching Power	Cut Resistance	Natural Ability	Quality of Opposition	Historical Impact	Total
Benny Leonard	9.5	9.5	9.5	9.5	10	7.5	9	9.5	10	10	94
Roberto Duran	10	8.5	10	8.5	8	10	9	9.5	9.5	10	93
Joe Gans	10	7	8.5	9.5	9.5	9	8	10	10	10	91.5
Henry Armstrong	7.5	10	9.5	8.5	7	8.5	8	8.5	10	10	87.5
Freddie Welsh	9.5	9.5	9	9.5	9.5	5.5	7.5	9.5	9	6.5	85
Barney Ross	7.5	9.5	10	6.5	6	6	8	8	10	10	81.5
Tony Canzoneri	7.5	9.5	9	6.5	6	6	8	8	10	10	80.5
Alexis Arguello	8	8	8.5	6.5	6.5	10	8	7.5	8	8	79
Joe Brown	8	7	7	8	7.5	6.5	7.5	8	9.5	8	77
Carlos Ortiz	8	8	8.5	8	6.5	6	7.5	7	9.5	8	77
Ike Williams	7.5	8	7.5	7.5	6	8	8	7.5	8	6	74
Ken Buchanan	9	9	9	8	7.5	6.5	6	6.5	8	4.5	74
Ismael Laguna	7	7.5	10	9	8	5.5	7.5	8	7.5	3.5	73.5
Willie Ritchie	8	8	8	8	8	3	7.5	7	8	4.5	70
Lou Ambers	8	8.5	8.5	7	5	4.5	7	6	9	5.5	69
Jimmy Carter	7	6.5	7.5	6.5	6.5	6	7.5	6.5	9	4	67
Battling Nelson	4	10	9.5	5	3.5	5.5	7.5	5.5	9	7	66.5
George Lavigne	6	7.5	8.5	6	5.5	5	6.5	6	8	7	66
Sammy Angott	8.5	6.5	9	6.5	6.5	4.5	8	6	7	3.5	66
Ad Wolgast	5	9	9	5	5	5	7.5	5.5	9	5.5	65.5
Rocky Kansas	7	9	9.5	5	5	4.5	7.5	4.5	8	4	64
Sammy Mandell	6	6.5	6	6.5	6	5	8	6.5	8.5	4.5	63.5
Jimmy Goodrich	6.5	9	10	6	6	2	8.5	6	7	2.5	63.5
Al Singer	5.5	6.5	4.5	6.5	6	6	8	6.5	7	4.5	61
Frank Erne	6	6.5	6	6	5.5	5	6.5	6	8	4	59.5
Lew Jenkins	4	7	5	5.5	4.5	8.5	6	5	8	5	58.5
Mando Ramos	5	7	5.5	6.5	5.5	7.5	5	6	6	3	57
Carlos Teo Cruz	6	7	7	6	6	4	6.5	5.5	5.5	2	55.5
Bud Smith	6	6	6	6.5	6	3.5	6	6	6.5	2.5	55
Lauro Salas	4.5	7	5.5	5.5	4.5	6	6	5.5	7	2	53.5
Paddy DeMarco	5.5	6	5.5	5	6	2	6	5.5	7	2	50.5

A few words of explanation about the 10 categories used in deciding The Ring's new all-time lightweight ratings.

DEFENSE: While this category is self-explanatory, it should be noted that in cases where a champion's offense was also his best defense, points were awarded based on the overall effectiveness, vis-a-vis defense, of his individual style.

DETERMINATION: Courage, guts, heart, bottom, whatever you want to call it, it all boils down to the same thing: the overpowering will to keep fighting in the face of any odds.

DURABILITY: The champions' chins, stamina and overall conditioning throughout their careers were considered when grading this department.

HAND SPEED: One cannot overstress the importance of hand speed, perhaps the single most important quality any fighter can own.

FOOT WORK: Another vital part of any boxer's repertoire. It should be noted that a champion doesn't necessarily have to be a speed merchant — though it certainly helps — to rate highly in this category.

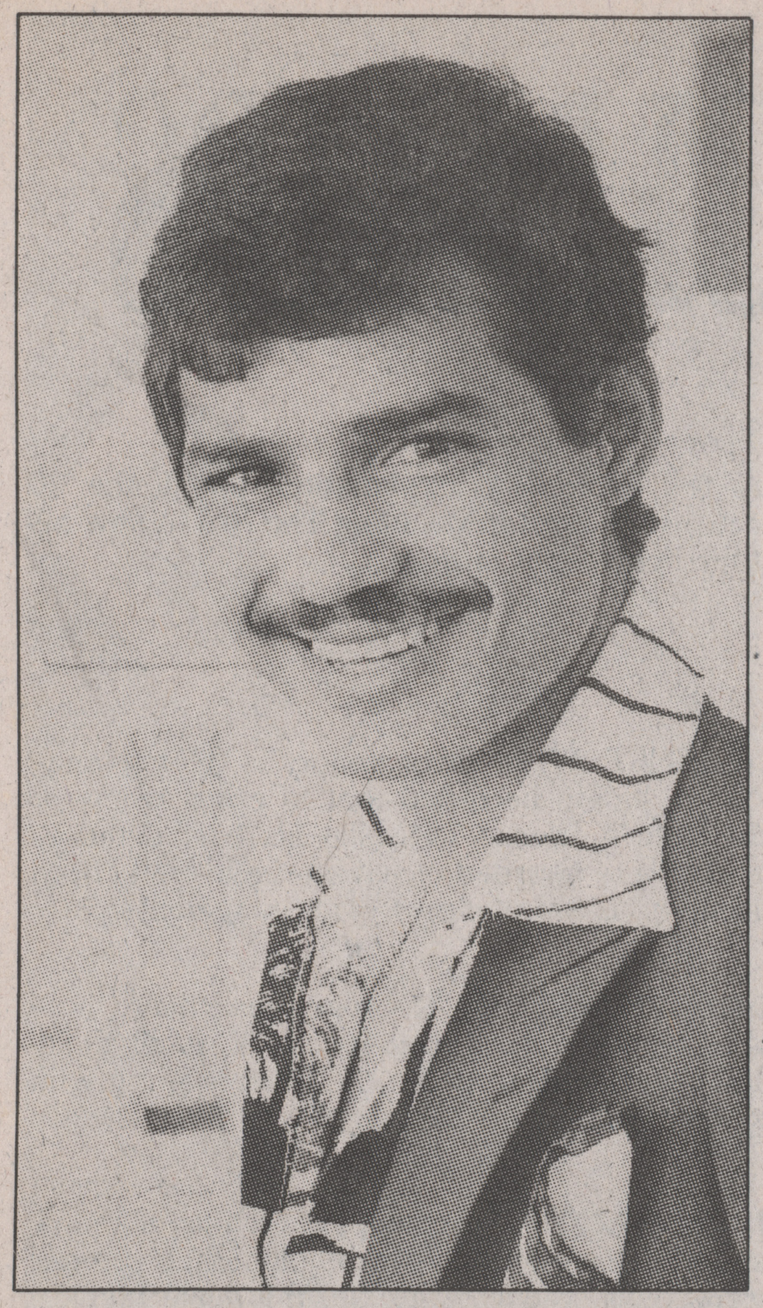
PUNCHING POWER: The most obvious and dynamic quality a fighter can possess. The effect of combination punching was also factored into this equation.

CUT RESISTANCE: Always a factor, especially today when officials are much more likely to stop a fight because of cuts than in the past.

NATURAL ABILITY: Not only are the champions' God-given talents taken into consideration here, but also the fact that some failed to make the most of their gifts.

QUALITY OF OPPOSITION: It is undeniable that some champs fought in an era blessed with better fighters than others, a criterion that has to be taken into consideration when grading them as a group.

HISTORICAL IMPACT: The champion of any division should be more than just the best fighter in the world at his weight. Ideally, he should also be a larger-than-life figure, one who captures the public's imagination and leaves an indelible impression on the sport. □

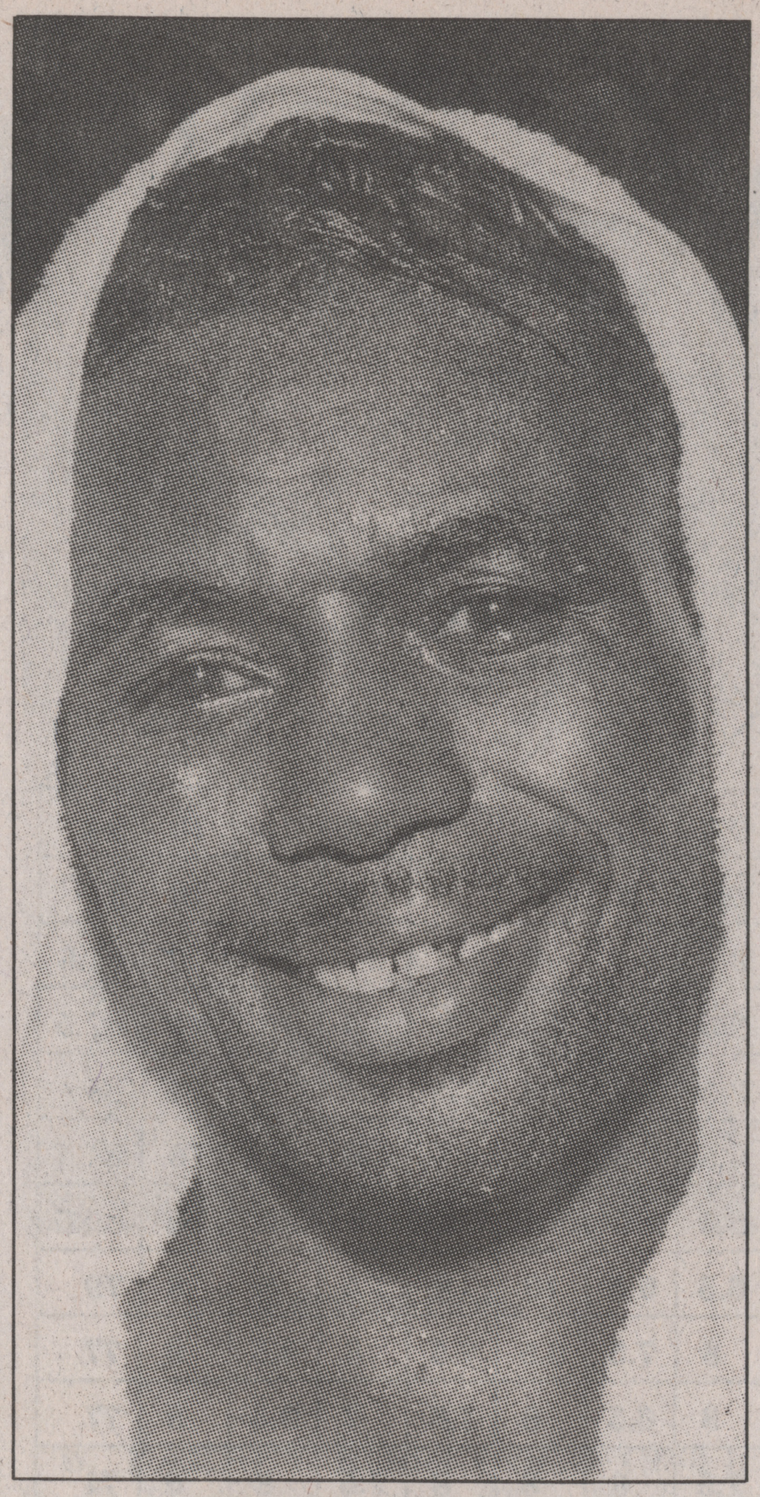


Alexis Arguello

8. ALEXIS ARGUELLO (1982-1983): At a time when multiple champions and multiplying divisions makes it almost impossible for a fighter to gain recognition as a true world champion, this Nicaraguan managed to do it twice. Arguello was recognized as world featherweight champion from 1974 to 1976 and as lightweight champion from 1982 until 1983.

The hard-punching Arguello first made his move into the lightweights by capturing the WBC super featherweight crown. After giving that up, he made his first claim to the lightweight championship vacated by Duran, winning the WBC title from Jim Watt. When Ray Mancini won the WBA crown after being stopped by Alexis, Arguello's standing as true lightweight champ could not be denied. He cemented it by knocking out WAA champion Andy Ganigan, who had KO'd Sean O'Grady for his title.

Arguello ended his career 80-6-0 with 65 KOs. He was stopped three times, twice by Aaron Pryor in bids for Pryor's WBA junior welterweight title. No opponent of Arguello's held the world lightweight championship. Arguello retired in 1986 at age 34.

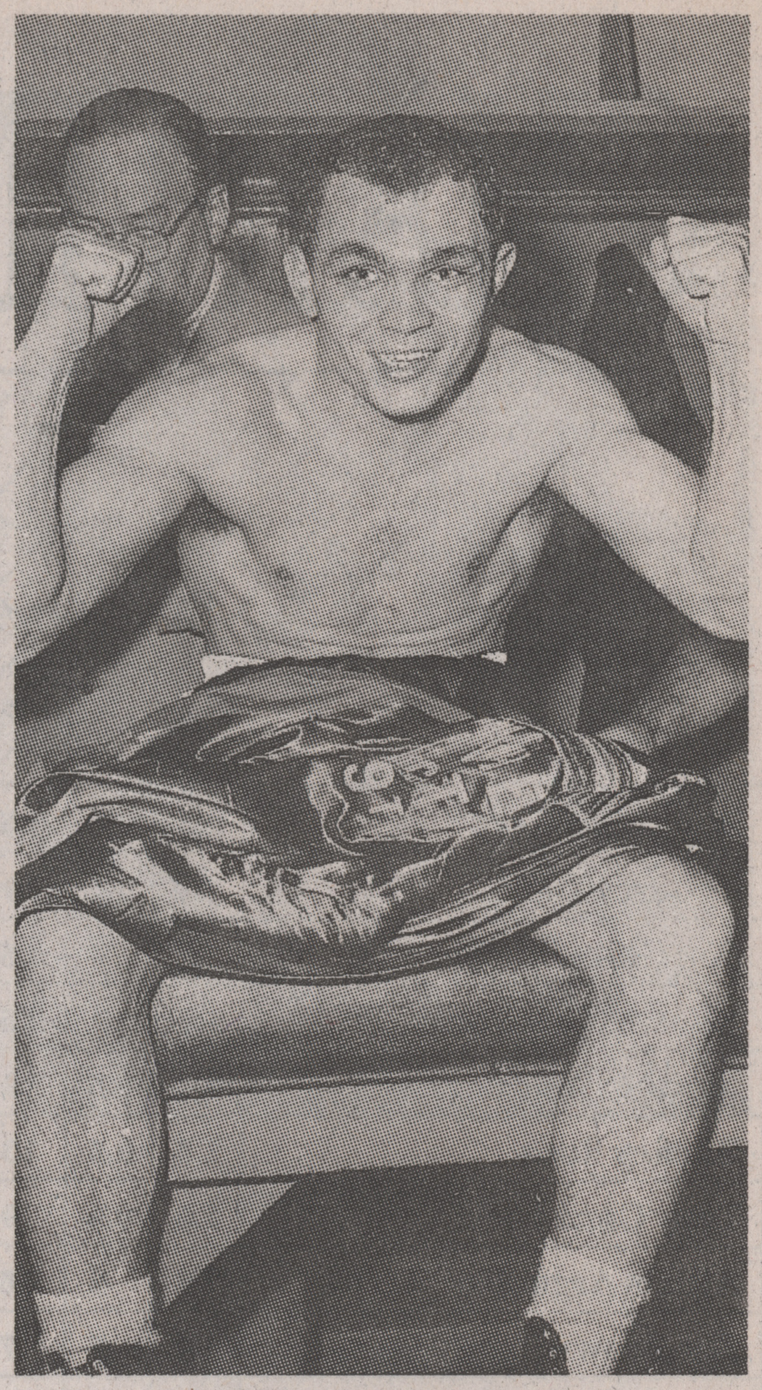


Joe Brown

9. JOE BROWN (1956-1962): The career of "Old Bones" was detailed in the November, 1988 issue when he was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame at age 62.

A master boxer with a stiff punch, Brown dominated his division for six years though he didn't win his championship until he was 30. A busy campaigner, Brown made 11 successful defenses and squeezed in several non-title bouts as well. Two of the defenses were against England's Dave Charnley. The second, a 15-round decision for Brown in London, was named *The Ring's* Fight of the Year for 1961 and Brown won that year's Fighter of the Year honors.

Brown's 104-42-13 record, which includes two no contests and 47 KOs, is deceiving. Twenty-three of his losses came after he lost his championship as he continued boxing until he was almost 44! His record against other lightweight champions: Carter (W10); Smith (W10); Smith (W15); Smith (TKO11); Ortiz (L15).

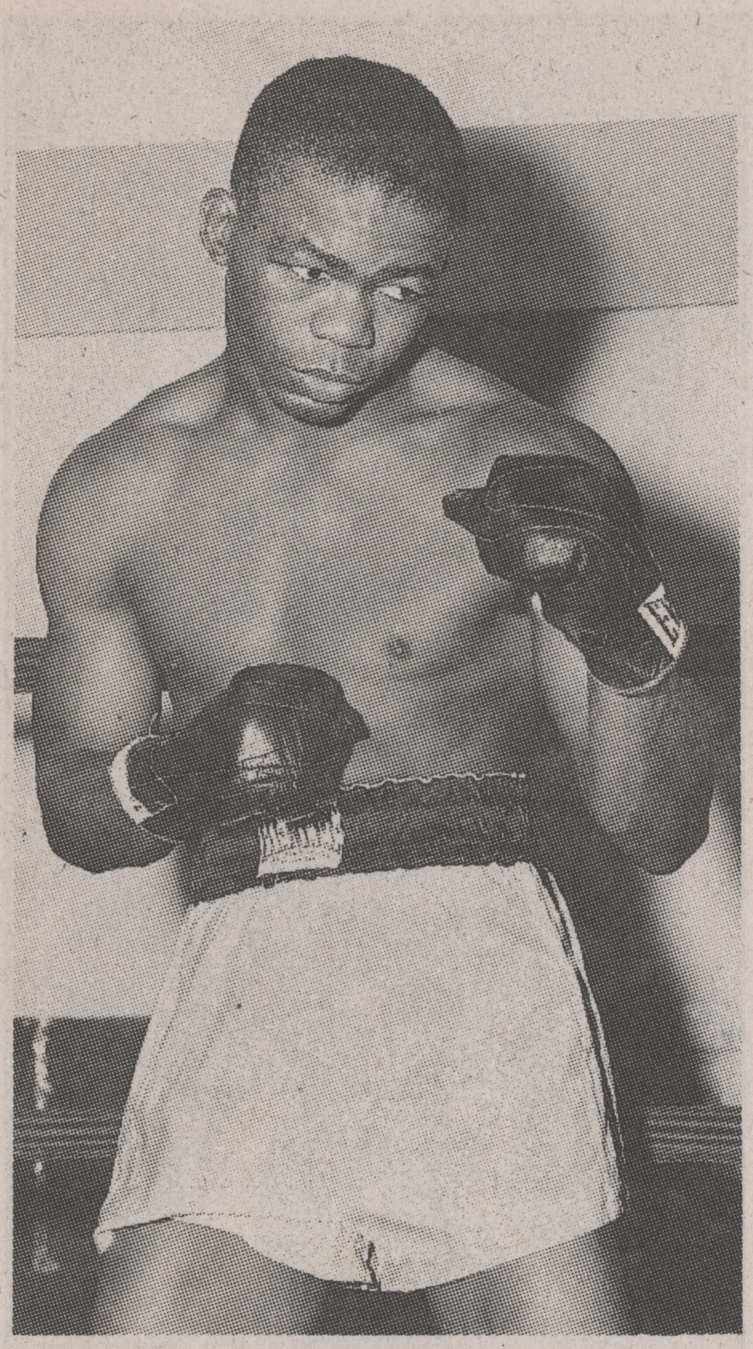


Carlos Ortiz

9. CARLOS ORTIZ (1962-1965, 1965-1968): Ortiz took the championship from Brown and was elected to *The Ring's* Hall of Fame at the same time, thus it is fitting the two emerge tied to round out the lightweights golden 10.

While Ortiz was waiting for his chance at Brown, he was matched with Kenny Lane for the junior welterweight championship which had been vacant for more than 10 years due to lack of interest. Ortiz won, but he preferred a title without a junior attached to it and finally succeeded in taking Brown's championship. He defended four times before losing to Ismael Laguna, but he won the crown back in a rematch and defended five more times before falling to Carlos Teo Cruz.

Ortiz was 61-7-1 with one no contest and 30 KOs. He was stopped just once, in his final bout at age 36 by the brilliant Scot Ken Buchanan. Ortiz' record against other lightweight champions: Brown (W15); Laguna (L15); Laguna (W15); Cruz (L15); Buchanan (TKOby6). At the age of 52, Ortiz drives a cab in New York.

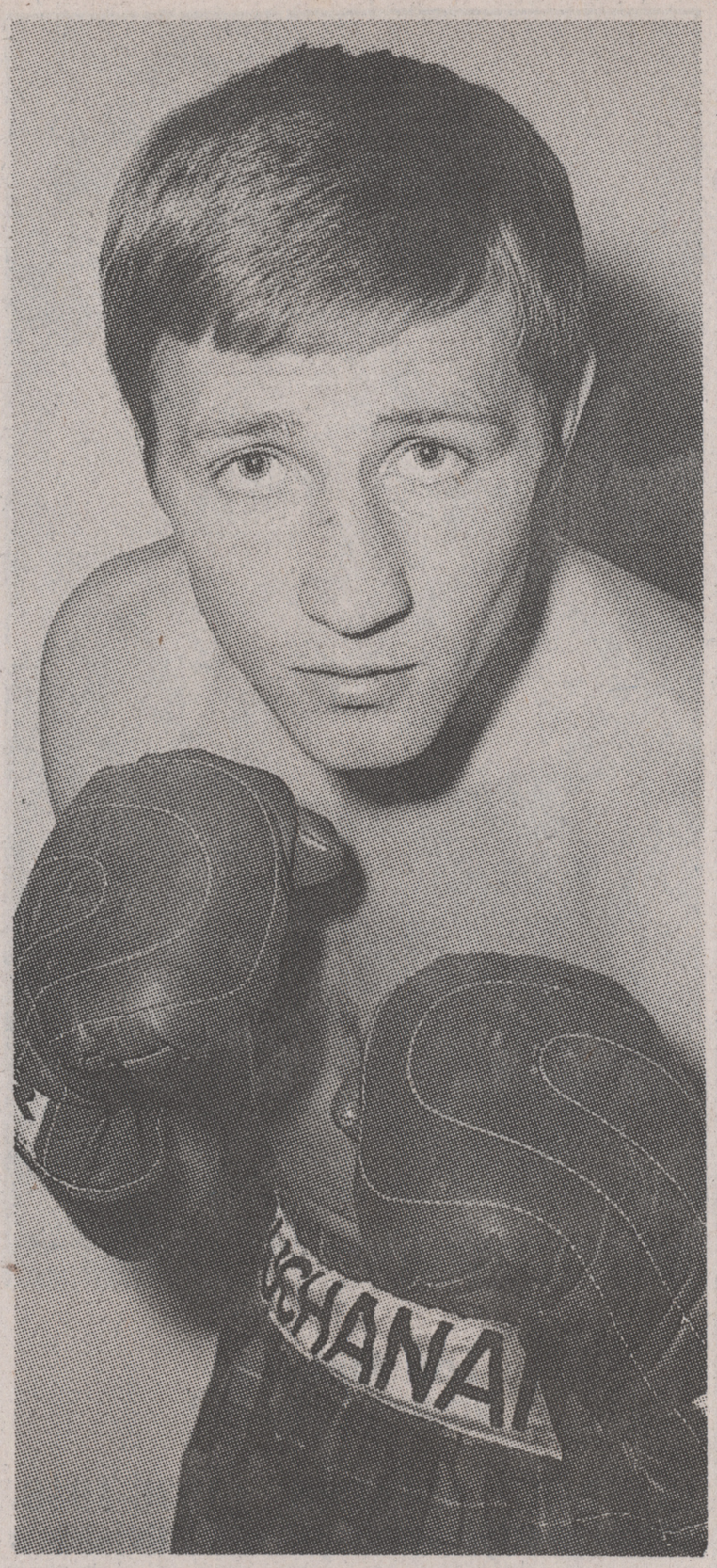


Ike Williams

11. IKE WILLIAMS (1947-1951): When Sammy Angott retired, the lightweight championship became vacant for five years. During that time, several laid claim to the crown, Beau Jack and Bob Montgomery in particular, along with Angott, who was on a comeback.

It took Isiah Williams, a beautiful standup boxer with good power in both hands, to sort out the mess. He won NBA recognition by knocking out Juan Zurita, another claimant, then beat Montgomery to gain universal recognition. Williams defended his championship five times before being stopped by Jimmy Carter. In 1948, he defended against Enrique Bolanos, Jack and Jesse Flores and won seven non-title bouts, including a decision over Kid Gavilan, to earn *The Ring*'s nod as Fighter of the Year. He fought for another four years after losing to Carter, but never got another title shot.

Williams was 123-25-5 with 60 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Angott (W10); Angott (W10); Angott (TKOby6); Carter (TKOby14). The 65-year-old Williams was elected to *The Ring's* Hall of Fame in 1978.

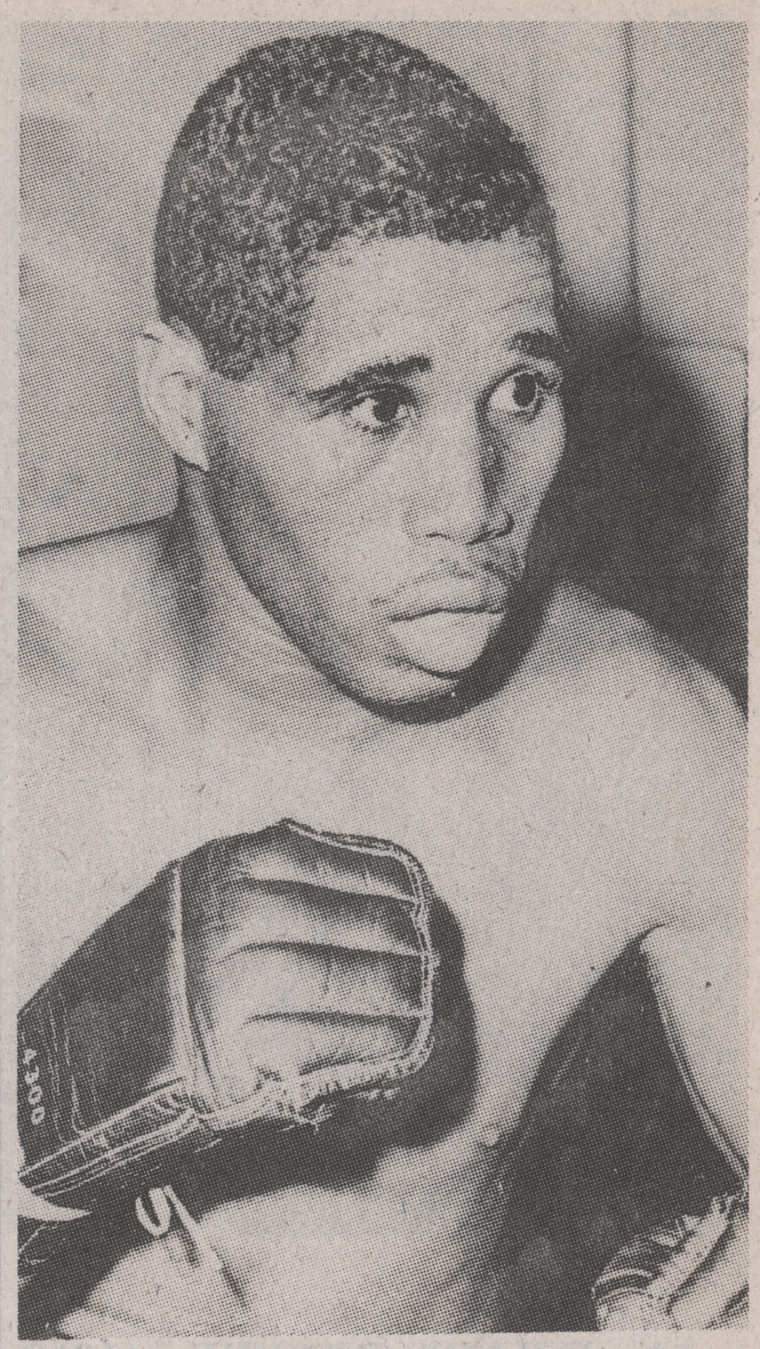


Ken Buchanan

11. KEN BUCHANAN (1970-1972): This Scot, tied with Williams, had the misfortune of holding the lightweight championship during the rise of Duran. Had it not been for the Panamanian, Buchanan may have held his title a lot longer.

As it was, he managed to squeeze in two defenses after beating Laguna to win the crown. Then Duran stopped him in 13 rounds, the only time Buchanan was stopped in 70 bouts. He continued campaigning successfully until age 37, winning the British and European lightweight championships and even getting a crack at the WBC lightweight title.

The rugged, standup southpaw finished 62-8-0 with 28 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Laguna (W15); Laguna (W15); Duran (TKOby13); Ortiz (TKO6). Buchanan retired in 1983. He is 43.

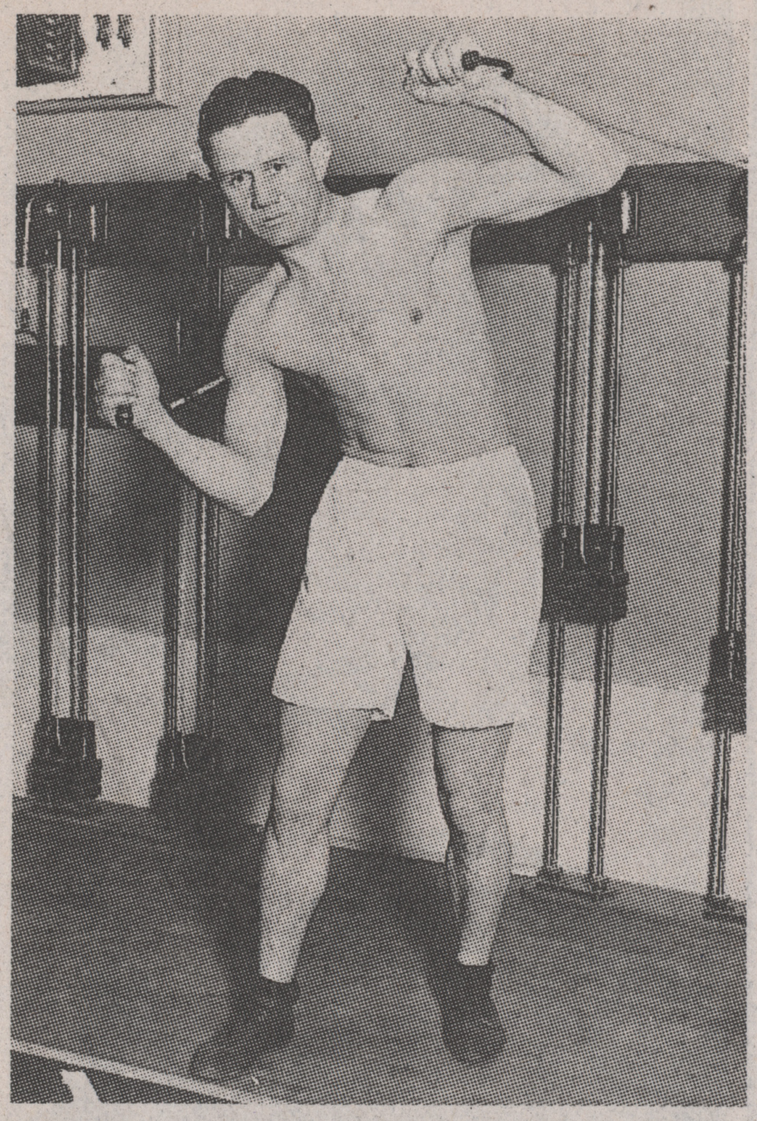


Ismael Laguna

13. ISMAEL LAGUNA (1965, 1970): Laguna was as smooth as Joey Izuzu's pitch and appeared almost frail. But he might have been the toughest lightweight to emerge from Panama, including Duran. In 75 outings, many against the world's best, Laguna was never stopped, though it may be noted that he did approach combat with a somewhat defensive attitude.

Laguna won the lightweight crown twice, but couldn't hold it long either time. He outpointed Ortiz, then lost the rematch without making a successful defense. Five years later, he knocked out Mando Ramos to reclaim the championship, but lost it in his second defense the same year to Buchanan.

Laguna compiled a 65-9-1 record with 37 knockouts. His record against other lightweight champions: Ortiz (W15); Ortiz (L15); Ortiz (L15); Ramos (KO9); Buchanan (L15); Buchanan (L15). Laguna retired just short of his 29th birthday. He is 45.

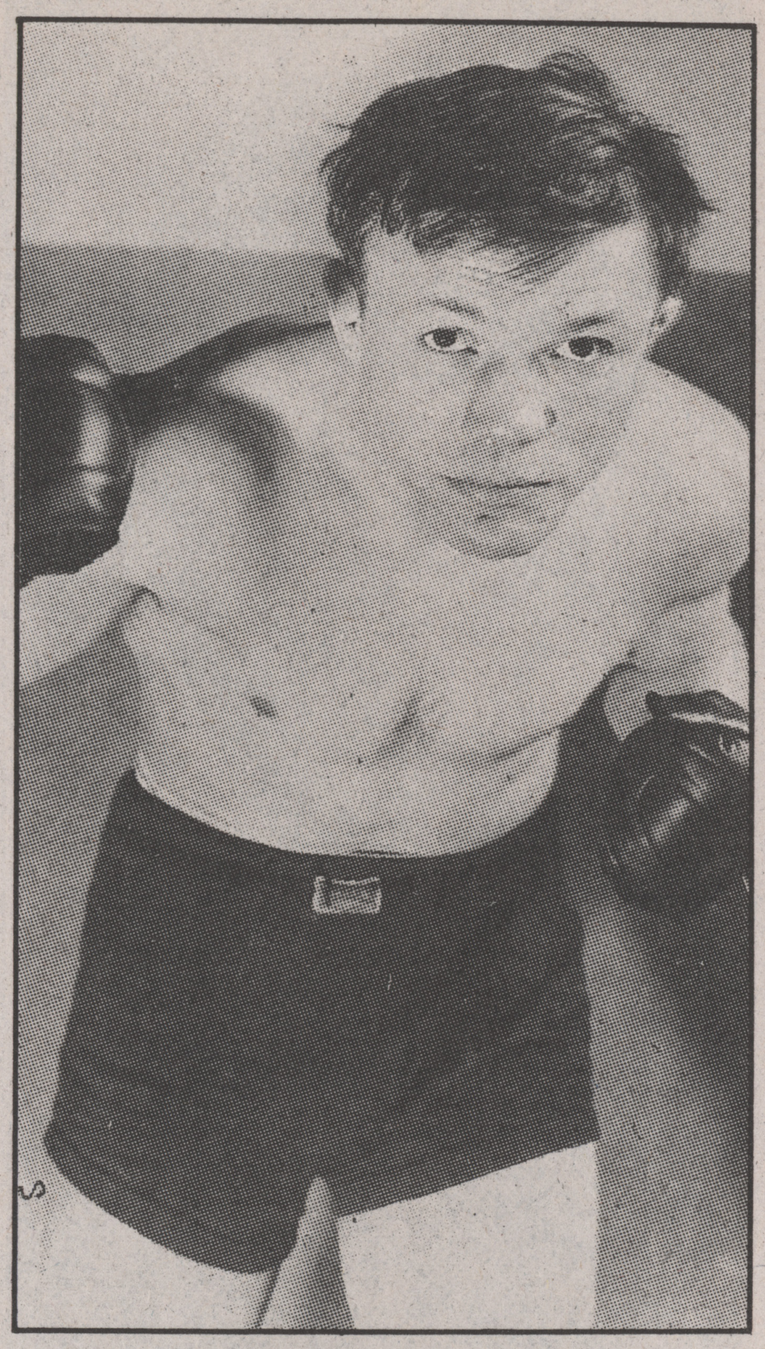


Willie Ritchie

14. WILLIE RITCHIE (1912-1914): Did Gerhardt Anthony Steffen become the master boxer because he couldn't punch, or was his lack of knockout power a result of his stylish form? It doesn't matter, Ritchie's style worked.

After holding his own for 15 rounds against Ad Wolgast, Ritchie was crowned lightweight champion on a foul in the 16th. He made two successful defenses, one a stirring 11-round knockout of Mexican Joe Rivers, before running afoul of the even slicker Welsh in London. Ritchie met Welsh again the next year, but the bout was a no decision affair with the title not at stake, so Ritchie's good showing didn't do much, except possibly for his ego. He never did get another championship crack, though he fought for 12 more years before retiring at age 36.

Ritchie was 37-8-12 with 18 no decisions and just nine knockouts. He was stopped just twice, in his pro debut at age 15 and by Leonard 12 years later. His record against other lightweight champions: Welsh (L20); Wolgast (ND4); Wolgast (WF16); Wolgast (ND10); Welsh (L20); Welsh (ND10); Leonard (ND4) Leonard (TKOby8). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1962, Ritchie died in 1975 at the age of 84.

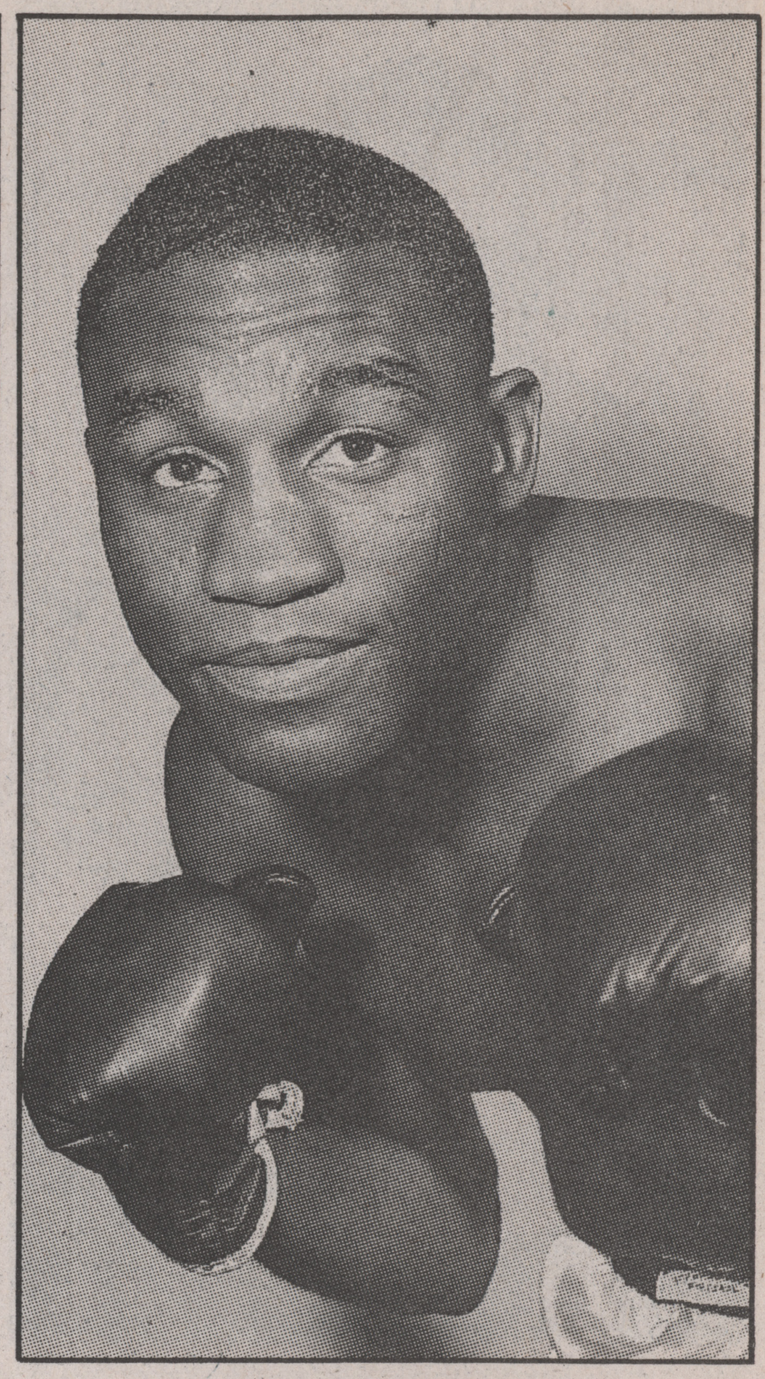


Lou Ambers

15. LOU AMBERS (1936-1938, 1939-1940): Perhaps the division's most underrated champion, Luigi Giuseppe D'Ambrosio, "The Herkimer Hurricane," was a whirlwind in the midst of one of the golden eras of the lightweights.

When Ross vacated the division, the youthful Ambers was matched with Canzoneri to determine a new champion. Ambers, a former sparring partner of Canzoneri, lost a decision, but won the rematch from Canzoneri and the lightweight championship. He defended twice, once against Canzoneri, before losing a war to Armstrong, who became a triple champion with his split decision victory. They met again, and Ambers regained the crown, but he was knocked out in his first defense by Lew Jenkins, the only man to stop him.

Ambers was 86-8-6 with 27 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Canzoneri (L15); Canzoneri (W15); Canzoneri (W15); Armstrong (L15); Armstrong (W15); Jenkins (TKOby3); Jenkins (TKOby7). Born in 1913, Ambers was elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1964.

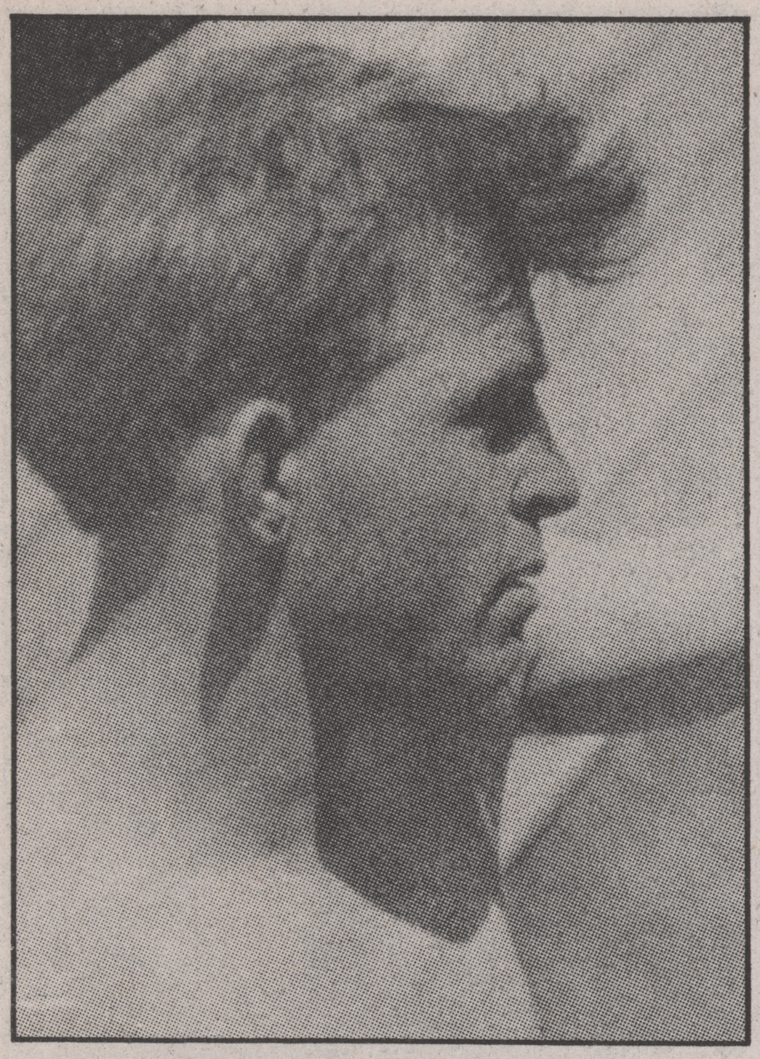


Jimmy Carter

16. JIMMY CARTER (1951-1952, 1952-1954, 1954-1955): James Walter Carter is the only man to win the world lightweight championship three times. So why is he so forgettable?

A competent, but unexciting battler, Carter failed to capture public fancy. He was also inconsistent. Good enough to stop Williams to win the crown, Carter was bad enough to lose it to rugged, but somewhat ordinary Lauro Salas after two successful defenses. Carter quickly got the belt back in the rematch, made three defenses, then lost it to the average Paddy DeMarco. Again Carter prevailed in a rematch, but his third reign ended quickly as he was beaten by Bud Smith, who had won just three of his previous six fights.

Overall, Carter was 81-30-9 with 31 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Brown (L10); Smith (W10); Williams (TKO14); Salas (W15); Salas (L15); Salas (W15); DeMarco (L15); DeMarco (TKO15); Smith (L15); Smith (L15); Salas (W10). Born in 1923, Carter remained active until 1960 when he retired after losing three straight.

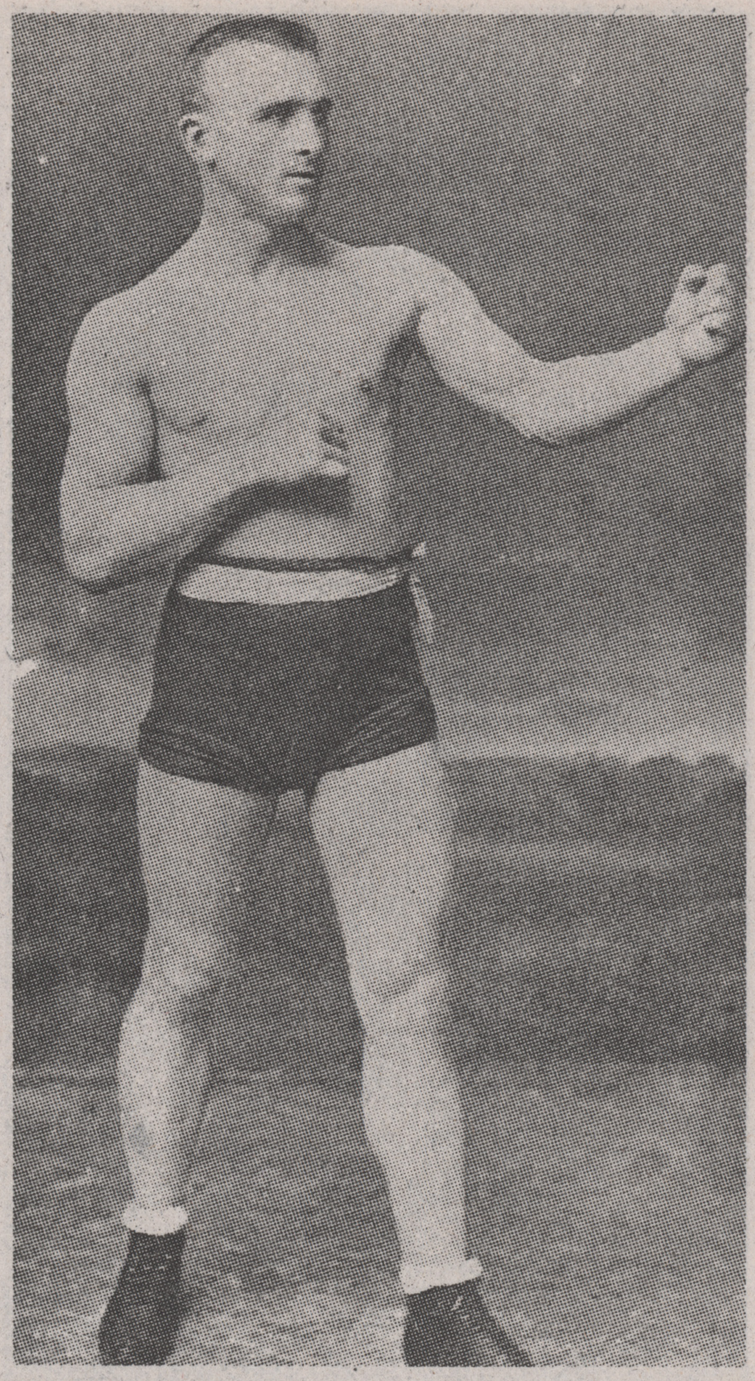


Battling Nelson

17. BATTLING NELSON (1910-1912): Rarely has a fighter carried a nickname more suitable than Oscar Matthew Nielson. "The Durable Dane" was one of the toughest ever to claim the 135-pound crown. He was also one of the crudest.

Nelson claimed the white lightweight championship when he knocked out Jimmy Britt. But when he took on Gans for the true championship, he took such a beating he eventually fouled out in the 42nd round. In a rematch with the now aging and ailing Gans, Nelson won the crown by knockout in Round 17 and stopped Gans in 21 rounds in his first of four successful title defenses. But Nelson met his match in Ad Wolgast, who stopped Nelson in 40 rounds to take the championship. The bout was wild and wooly even for Nelson, who asked the referee in the seventh round, "Don't we have any rules at all?" Nelson fought seven more years but never had another title fight.

He finished 59-19-19 with 33 no decisions, one no contest and 39 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Gans (LF42); Gans (KO17); Gans (KO21); Wolgast (ND10); Wolgast (TKOby40); Wolgast (ND10); Welsh (ND12). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1957, three years after his death at age 71.



George Lavigne

18. GEORGE LAVIGNE (1896-1899): Generally considered the first of the modern era's lightweight champions, "The Saginaw Kid," a French Canadian, began his career as a bareknuckler, but soon established his excellence with gloves.

Extremely aggressive, Lavigne wouldn't hesitate to take a few punches to get his shots in, especially to the body. Lavigne was unbeaten when he knocked out Dick Burge in 17 rounds of a brutal London affair to claim the vacant championship in his 35th fight. After seven successful defenses, the still unbeaten Lavigne tried for the welterweight championship but was stopped in 14 by Mysterious Billy Smith. In his next defense, Lavigne lost his crown to Frank Erne. He boxed just six times over the next 10 years, losing four.

Lavigne wound up 35-6-10 with four no decisions and 19 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Erne (D20); Erne (L20). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1959. Died in 1928 at age 58.

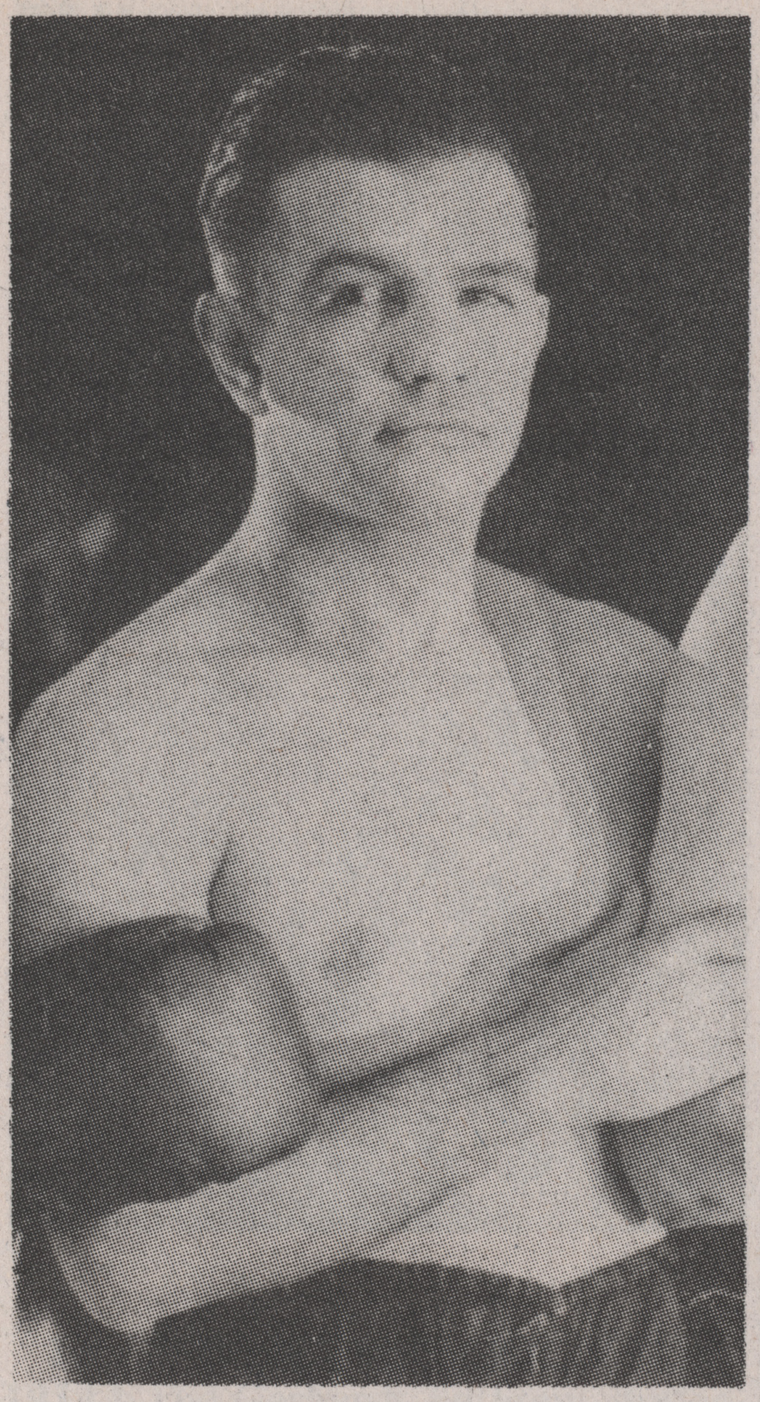


Sammy Angott

18. SAMMY ANGOTT (1941-1942): Samuel Engotti was called "The Clutch" for good reason. He'd deliver a punch, then grab. Fans hated it, but the style proved successful as Angott held the lightweight championship, if briefly, and later became the first to beat Willie Pep.

The NBA had vacated Ambers' title and Angott won recognition by decisioning Davey Day, who had already been beaten by Ambers. Meanwhile, Ambers lost his championship to Lew Jenkins, who in turn was beaten by Angott for the true world championship. Angott defended once, coming off the floor to split decision Allie Stolz, fought a couple non-title affairs, then surprisingly retired. He came back the next year and again claimed the vacant NBA title, but never fought again for the world championship.

Angott was 97-27-8 with 23 KOs. He was stopped just once, by Beau Jack, long after he had lost his crown. His record against other lightweight champions: Jenkins (W15); Armstrong (L10); Williams (L10); Williams (TKO6). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1973, seven years before his death at age 65.

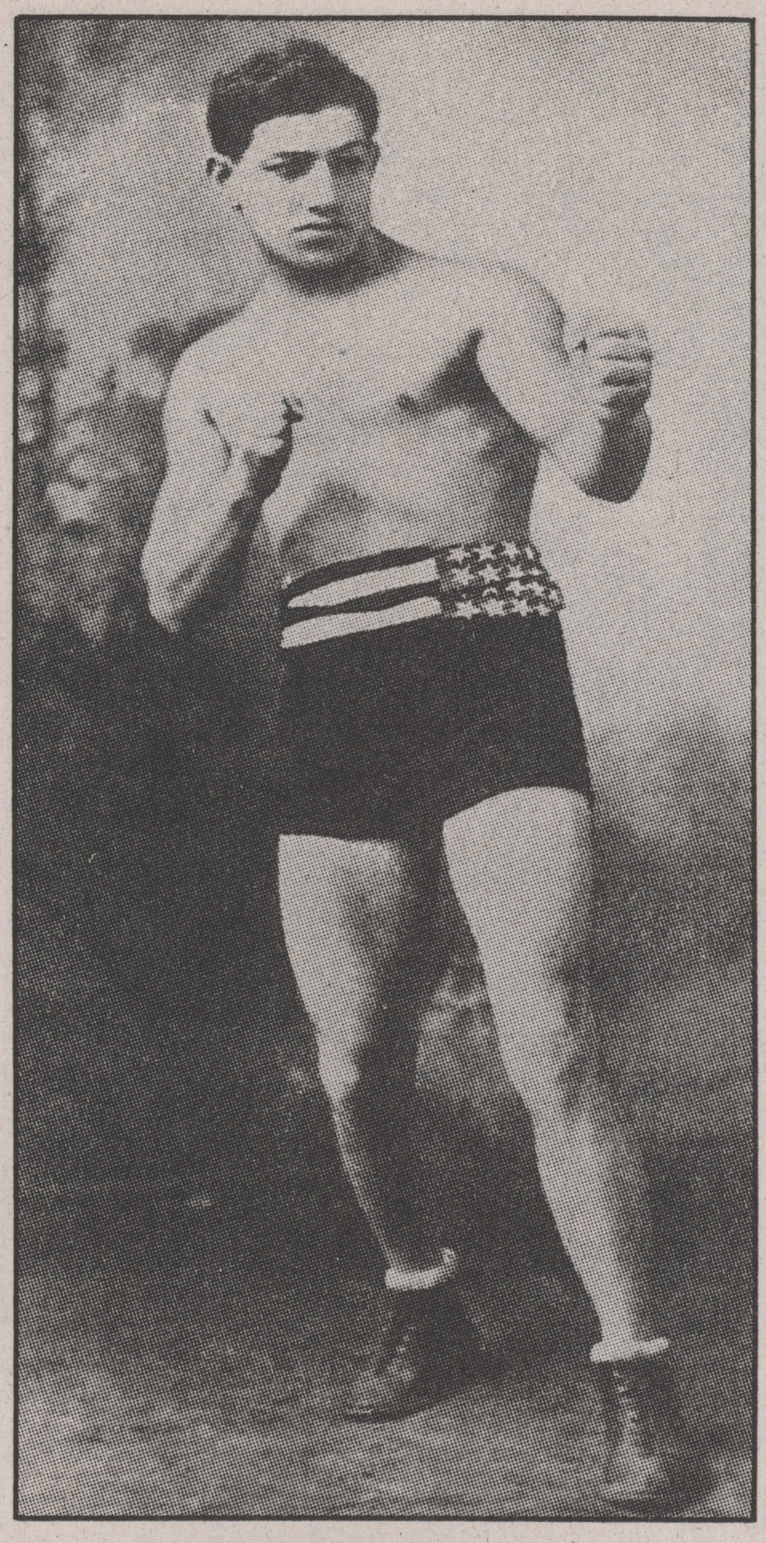


Ad Wolgast

20. AD WOLGAST (1910-1912): Adolph Wolgust, "The Michigan Wildcat," was able to beat Battling Nelson at his own game. And he matches Nelson in almost every voting category. But Wolgast lost some ground in historical impact, largely because Nelson's wars with Gans were slightly more memorable than those with Wolgast.

Surely, there is no denying the ability of both to absorb punishment. But Wolgast's let-it-all-out style cost him his championship after five successful defenses when he was disqualified against Ritchie. Almost four years later, Wolgast tried to reclaim his title from then-holder Welsh, but fouled out in the 11th.

Wolgast finished 60-11-13 with 49 no decisions and 40 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Nelson (ND10); Nelson (TKO40); Ritchie (ND4); Ritchie (LF16); Nelson (ND10); Ritchie (ND10); Welsh (TKOby8); Kansas (ND10); Welsh (ND10); Welsh (LF11). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1958, three years after his death at age 67.

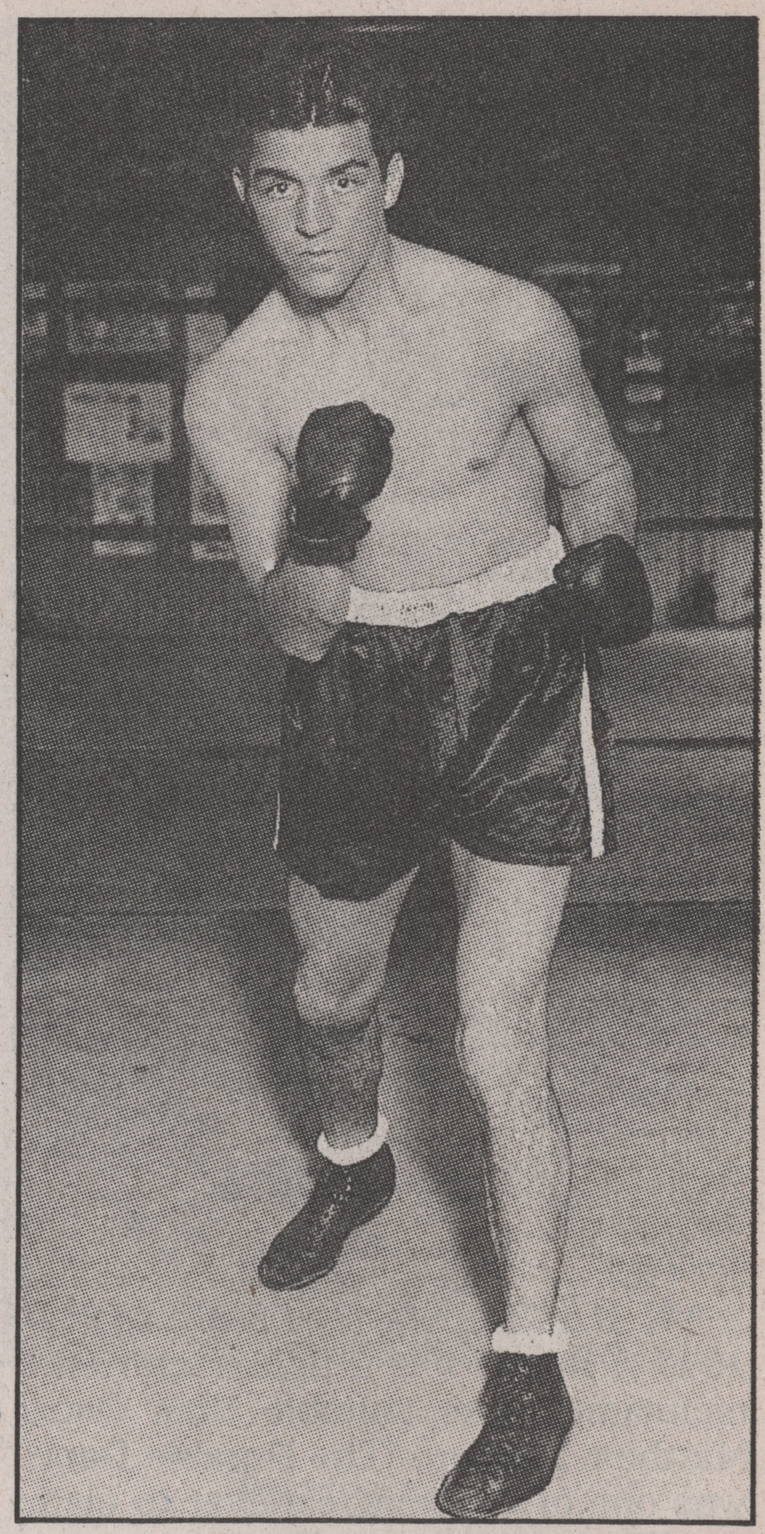


Rocky Kansas

21. ROCKY KANSAS (1925-1926): Stocky and strong, Rocco Tozzo probably could have beaten many of the fighters listed above him in this survey. But his grade slips in three categories, punching power, natural ability and historical impact.

Kansas tried to take the championship from Leonard, but lost by decision. After Leonard retired, Jimmy Goodrich won acceptance as champion, but Kansas took the crown in his second try. At the time, he was 30 years old and had been fighting 15 years. He fought just five more times, losing his championship to Sammy Mandell in his first defense.

Kansas concluded his career 63-9-6 with 87 no decisions and 35 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Wolgast (ND10); Leonard (ND10); Welsh (ND10); Leonard (ND10); Leonard (L15); Leonard (TKOby8); Goodrich (W15); Mandell (L10). Kansas died in 1954 at age 58.

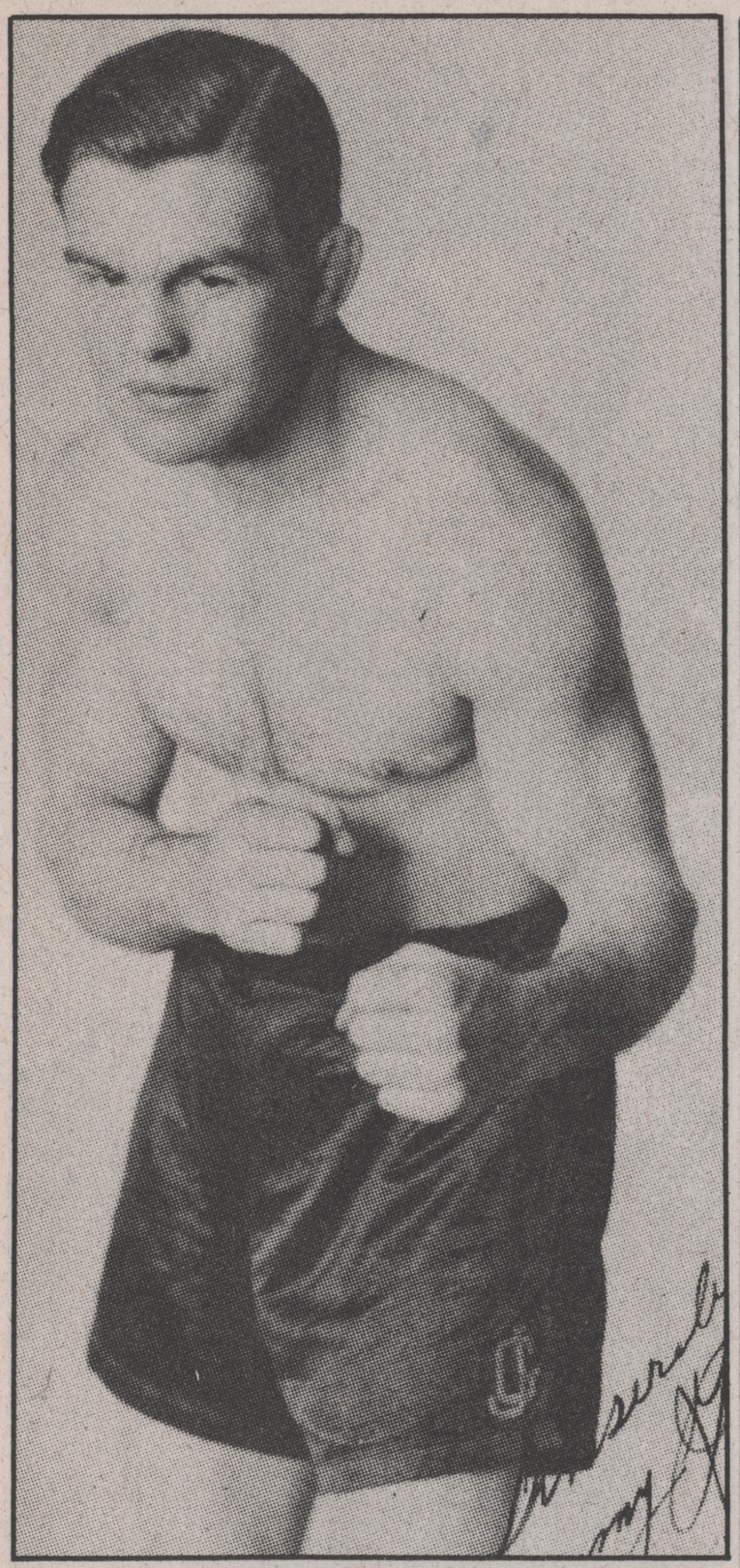


Sammy Mandell

22. SAMMY MANDELL (1926-1930): At his best, slick Samuel Mandella was capable of handling the likes of greats such as Johnny Dundee, Billy Petrolle, Jimmy McLarnin and Canzoneri. At less than his best, Mandell was capable of being knocked out in one round by Al Singer.

Mandell, who started his career at age 15, was just 22 when he won the championship on points against Kansas. The slick boxer defended successfully just twice, but his victims were McLarnin and Canzoneri. Then Singer blitzed him to take the title. Mandell fought on another four years, but never had another championship match.

Over 14 years, Mandell compiled a record of 83-21-9 with 73 no decisions, one no contest and 33 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Goodrich (LF6); Kansas (W10); Goodrich (TKOby2); Canzoneri (W10); Singer (KOby1). He died in 1967 at age 63.

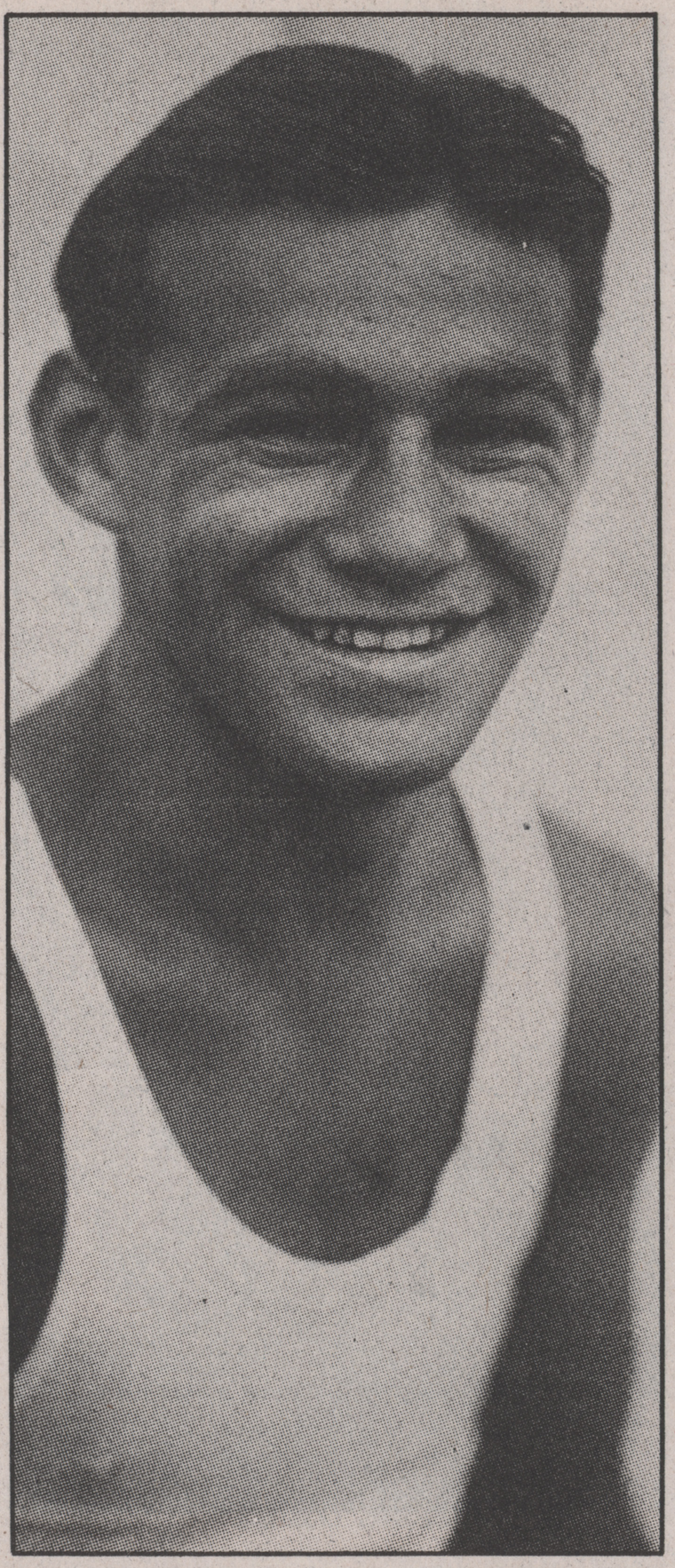


Jimmy Goodrich

22. JIMMY GOODRICH (1925): Though James Edward Moran had Mandell's number, he didn't have Mandell's overall credentials and thus finishes tied with Sammy in our survey.

One thing about Goodrich, you could bet his fights would go the distance. In 182 starts, Goodrich was never stopped. And he stopped just 10 opponents! When Leonard retired, a tournament was held with Goodrich and Stanislaus Loayza of Chile emerging as finalists. Loayza broke his ankle in the first round, and Goodrich won by second-round TKO. But his reign lasted just five months as he was outpointed by Kansas in his first defense.

Goodrich finished 79-34-19 with 50 no decisions and 10 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Mandell (WF6); Kansas (L15); Mandell (TKO2). Goodrich died in 1982 at the age of 82.

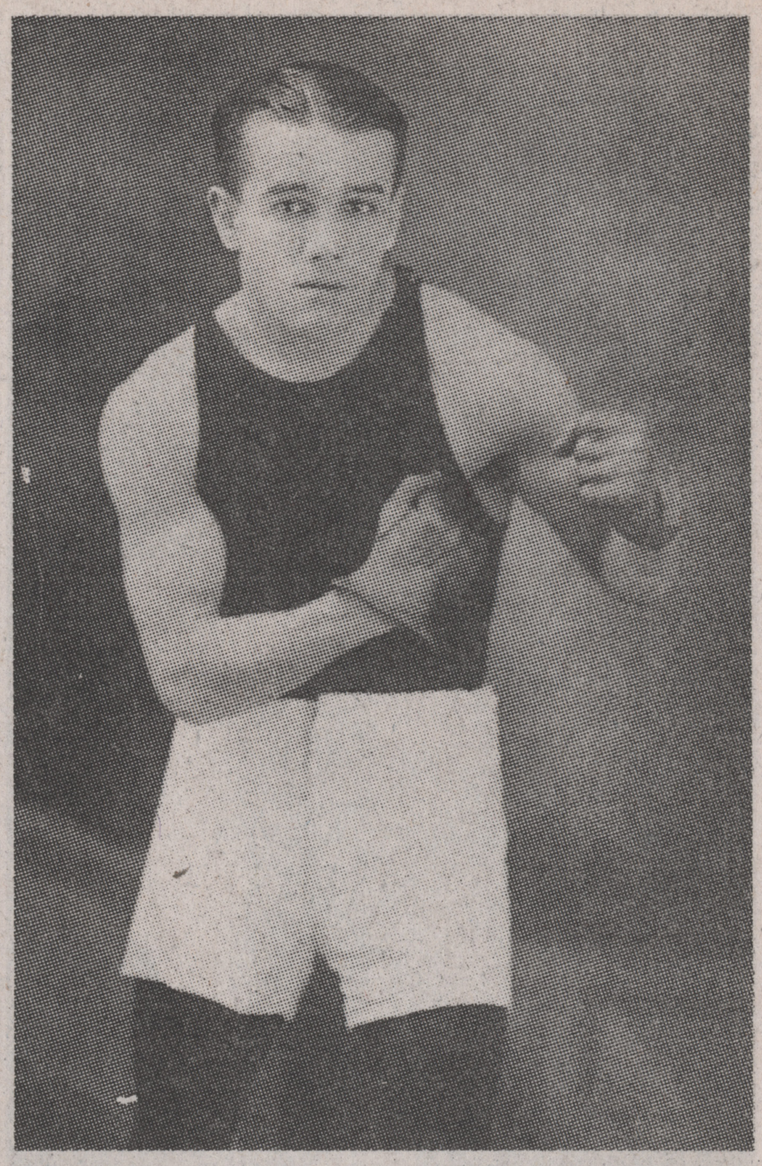


Al Singer

24. AL SINGER (1930): No champion has spent less time in the ring in championship fights than Abraham Singer.

Singer won his championship by knocking out Mandell in 106 seconds. He lost it in his first defense when Canzoneri flattened him in 66 seconds. Those were the only two title fights for the left hooker. But Singer was no flash in the pan. He drew with Canzoneri and went 12 with Kid Chocolate.

Singer was just 20 when he won the championship and retired at the ripe old age of 26 after compiling a record of 61-9-2 with 25 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Canzoneri (D10); Mandell (KO1); Canzoneri (KOby1). Singer died at age 51 in 1961.

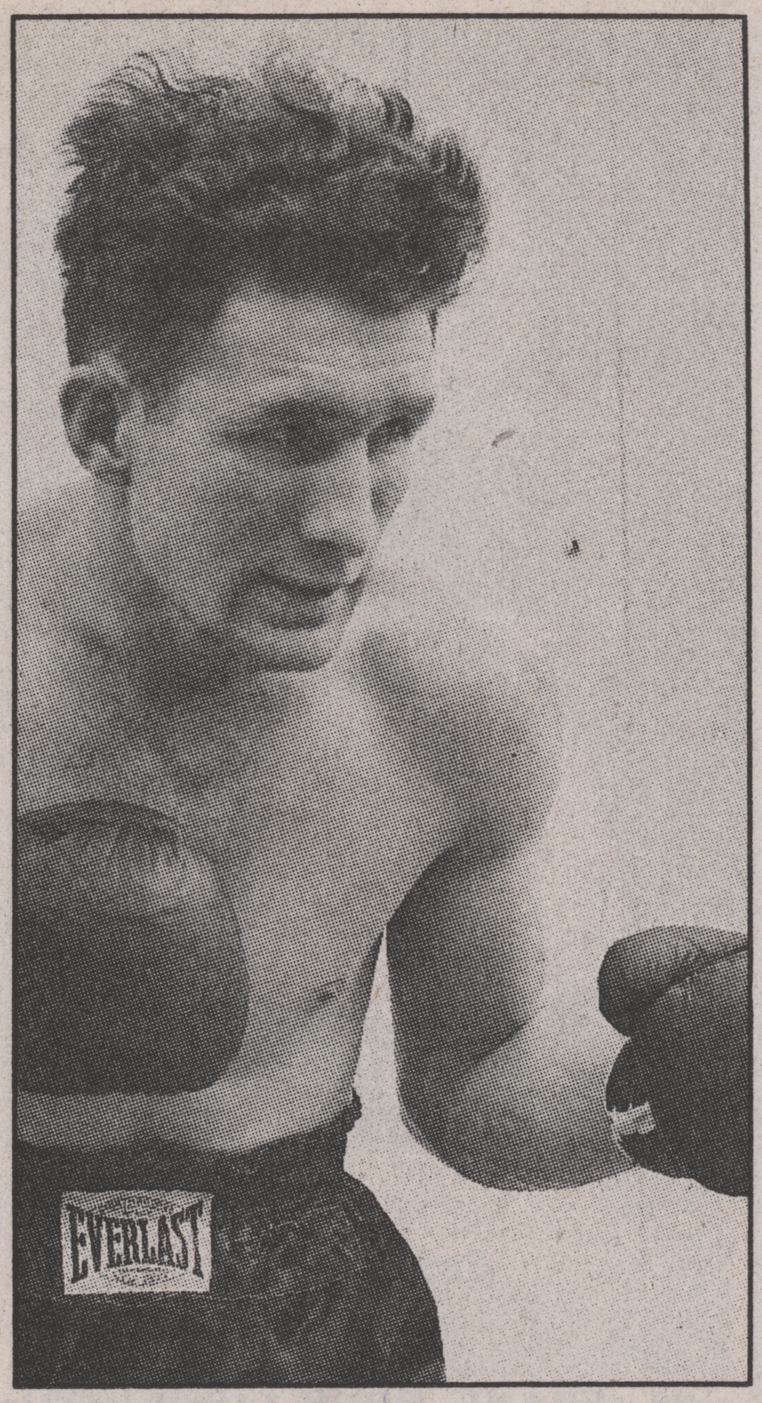


Frank Erne

25. FRANK ERNE (1899-1902): The second lightweight champion had the misfortune of numbering Gans among his contenders. Erne's results against "The Old Master" were typical of his somewhat inconsistent career. The first time they met, Erne defended his championship when Gans was cut on the eye and quit in the 12th round. The second time they met, Erne lasted less than a minute.

Erne missed his first crack at the title when he drew with Lavigne. But Erne won the rematch and defended his crown twice. But before Gans dethroned him, Erne had been knocked out in two of his previous five fights. He cut weight to 128 pounds to face featherweight champion Terry McGovern, but was knocked out in three. Two fights later, he challenged welterweight champion Rube Ferns and was stopped in nine. He also faced Jimmy Britt for the white championship while Gans reigned, Britt winning in seven.

The Zurich, Switzerland native had the fewest wins of any lightweight champion, posting a record of 22-6-12 with 12 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Lavigne (D20); Lavigne (W20); Gans (TKO12); Gans (KOby1). Erne died in 1954 at age 79.

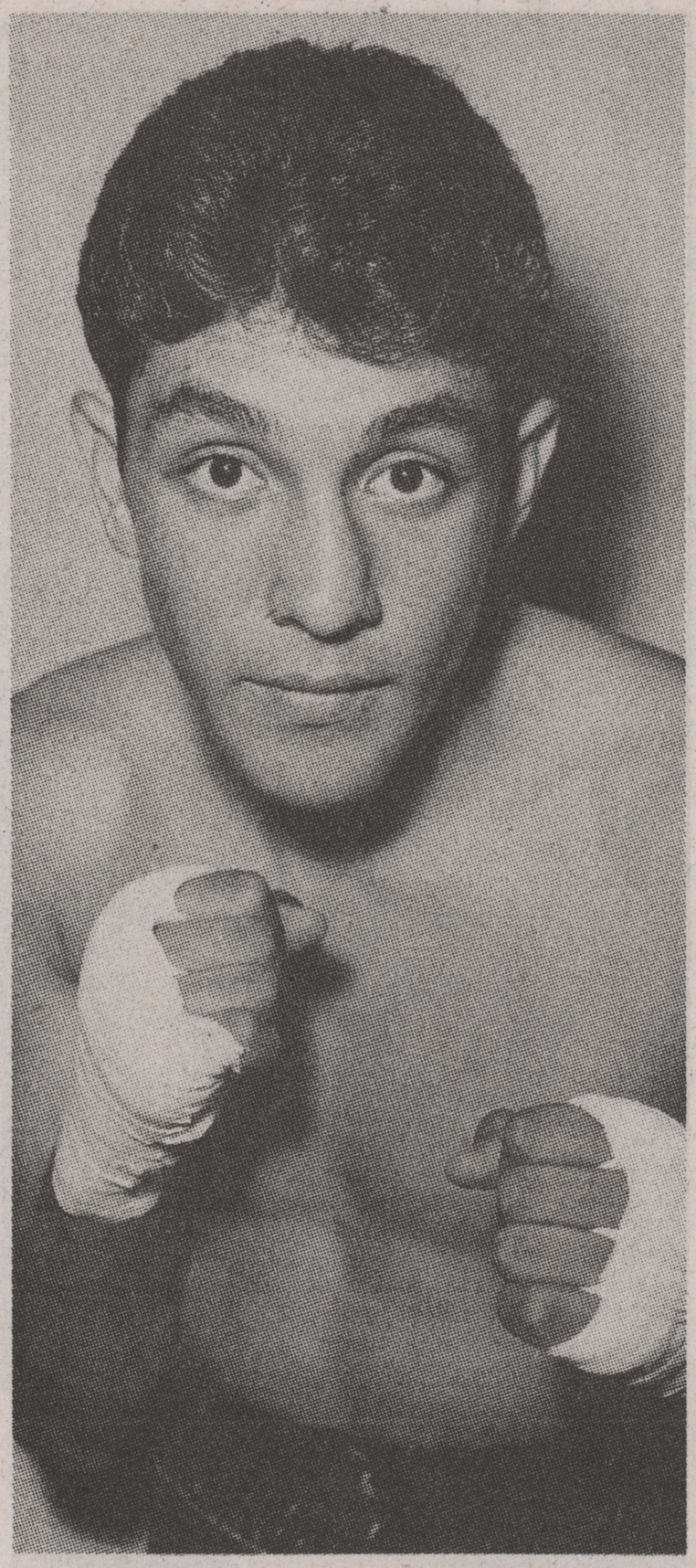


Lew Jenkins

26. LEW JENKINS (1940-1941): Ranked the fourth hardest punching lightweight champ in our survey, Elmer Verlin Jenkins was one of those fighters who should have been much better. Trouble was, Jenkins didn't take things too seriously and one never knew what condition he would be in for a fight.

Jenkins won the title by blistering Ambers, but in his next outing, a non-title match with Armstrong, who held the welter title at the time, Jenkins was stopped. As a champion he fought 10 times, winning just four, and made just two defenses, the second being a losing effort to Angott. Having lost his crown, Jenkins proceeded to lose nine of his next 10 before retiring. A comeback kept Jenkins fighting until 1950, but he never again fought for a championship.

Jenkins finished 63-39-5 with 46 KOs. He was stopped 12 times. His record against other lightweight champions: Ambers (TKO3); Armstrong (TKOby6); Ambers (TKO7), Angott (L15); Armstrong (KOby8). Elected to *The Ring* Hall of Fame in 1977, Jenkins died four years later at age 64.

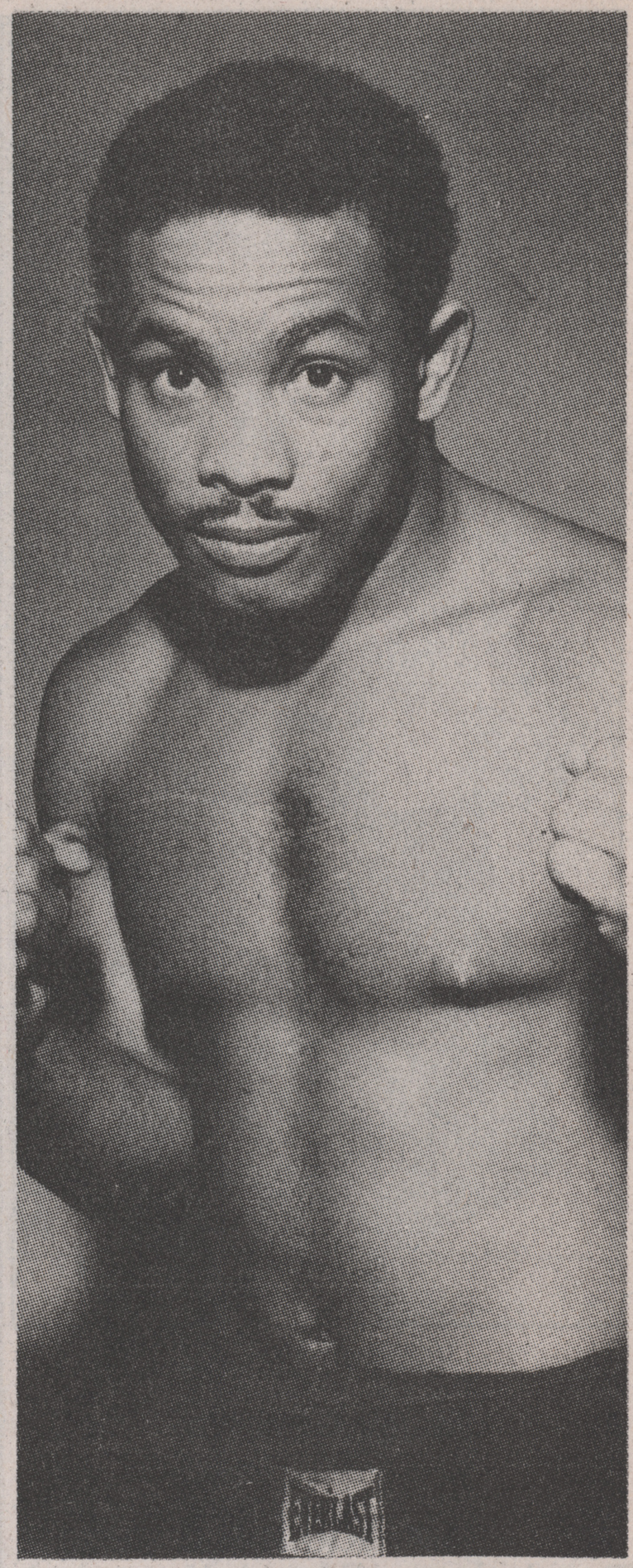


Mando Ramos

27. MANDO RAMOS (1969-1970): Few fighters were as exciting as California-born Armando, who became the division's youngest champion at 20. Only 19 of Ramos' 49 fights went the distance and there was usually plenty of blood and gore involved.

Ramos had his first crack at the title at the age of 19, but was outpointed by Carlos Teo Cruz. But a year later Ramos won the title when Cruz was stopped on cuts in 11. But after just one defense, Ramos was stopped on cuts by former champion Laguna. Two years later, Ramos briefly laid claim to the WBC title.

Ramos notched 23 KOs in his 37-11-1 record. His record against other lightweight champions: Cruz (L15); Cruz (TKO11); Laguna (TKOby9). Ramos was born in 1948.

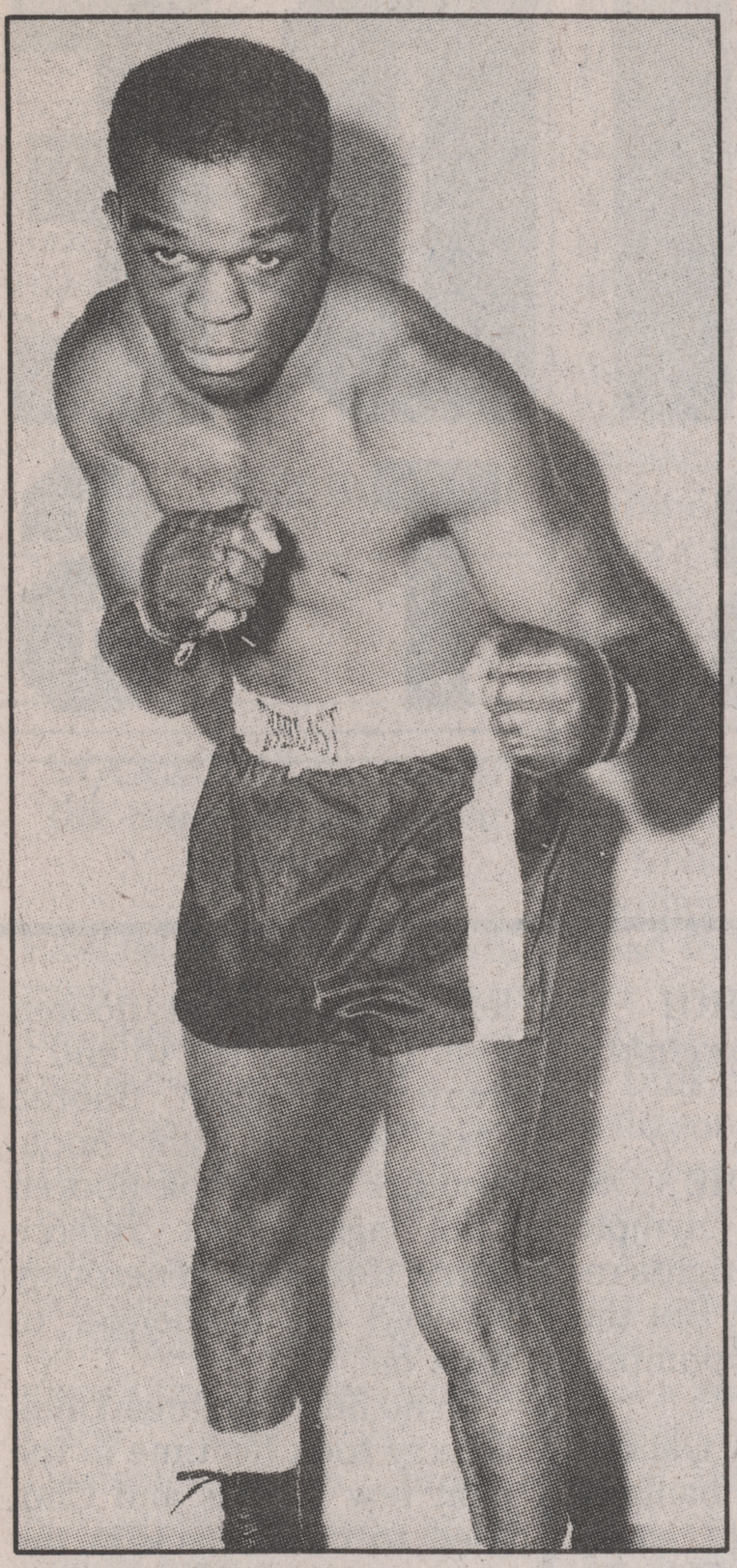


Carlos Teo Cruz

28. CARLOS TEO CRUZ (1968-1969): Carlos Teofilo Rosario Cruz took his crouching style from the Dominican Republic to the top of the lightweight division, if ever so briefly.

An off-an-on battler with a spotty record, Cruz captured the championship by surprising Ortiz on a close decision. He defended once, beating Ramos, but was stopped on cuts in the rematch. Cruz won four straight on a comeback, but was killed in an airplane crash a month after his final bout at age 32.

Cruz' record was 42-13-2 with 13 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Ortiz (W15); Ramos (W15); Ramos (TKOby11).

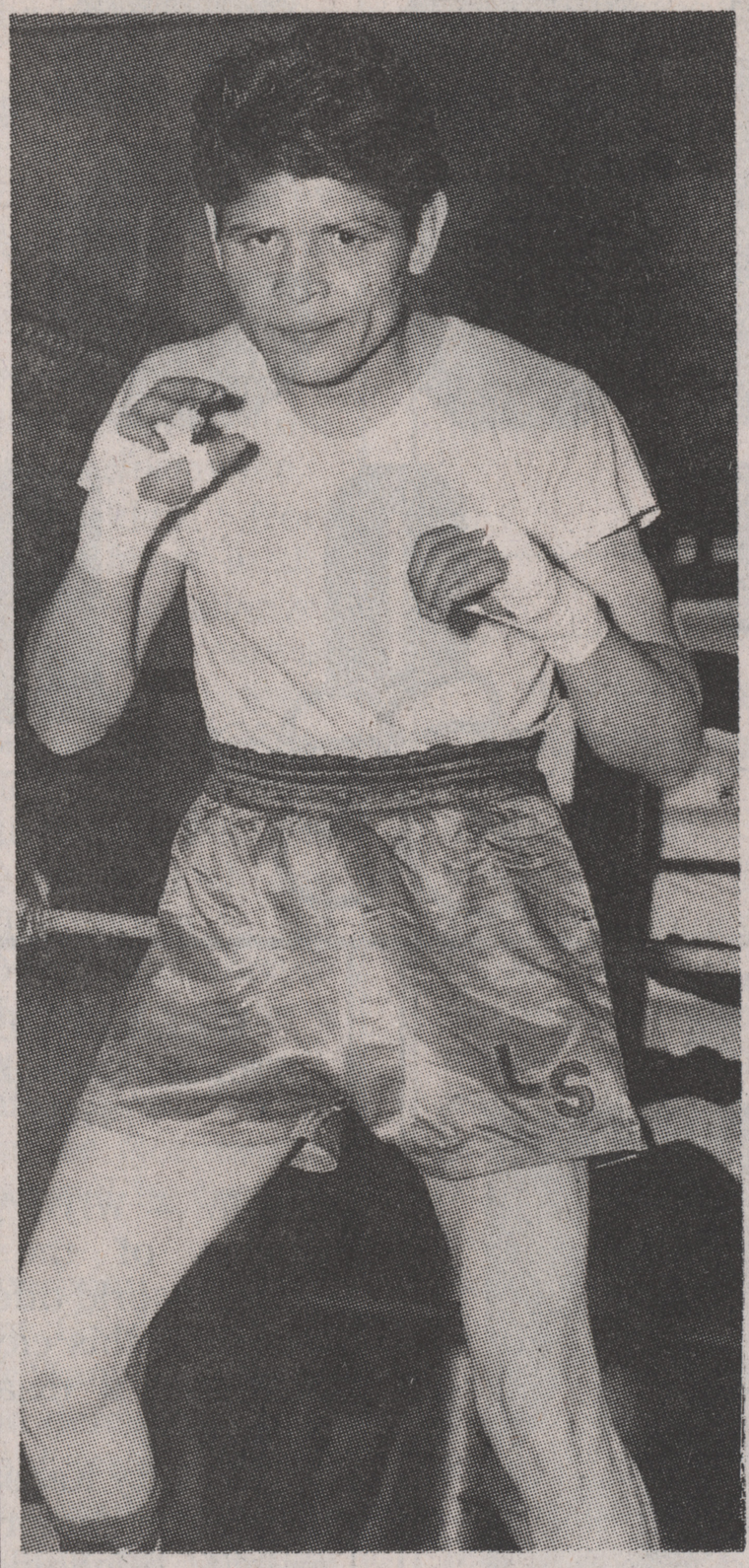


Bud Smith

29. BUD SMITH (1955-1956): Wallace Smith defined the term journeyman. He lost as often as he won, and had won just one of three before winning the world championship.

But Smith had Carter's number, surprising the titleholder on points to take his crown. Carter usually got even in rematches, but he couldn't master Smith, who outpointed him again for his only successful title defense. He never won again! In three non-title fights, Smith was beaten three straight times, the last by Brown, who took Smith's title in a rematch. By the time Smith finished in 1958, his losing streak had reached 11.

Smith's record stands 31-23-6 with 18 KOs. His record against other lightweight champions: Carter (L10); Carter (W15); Carter (W15); Brown (L10); Brown (L15); Brown (KOby11). Smith died in 1973 at age 44.

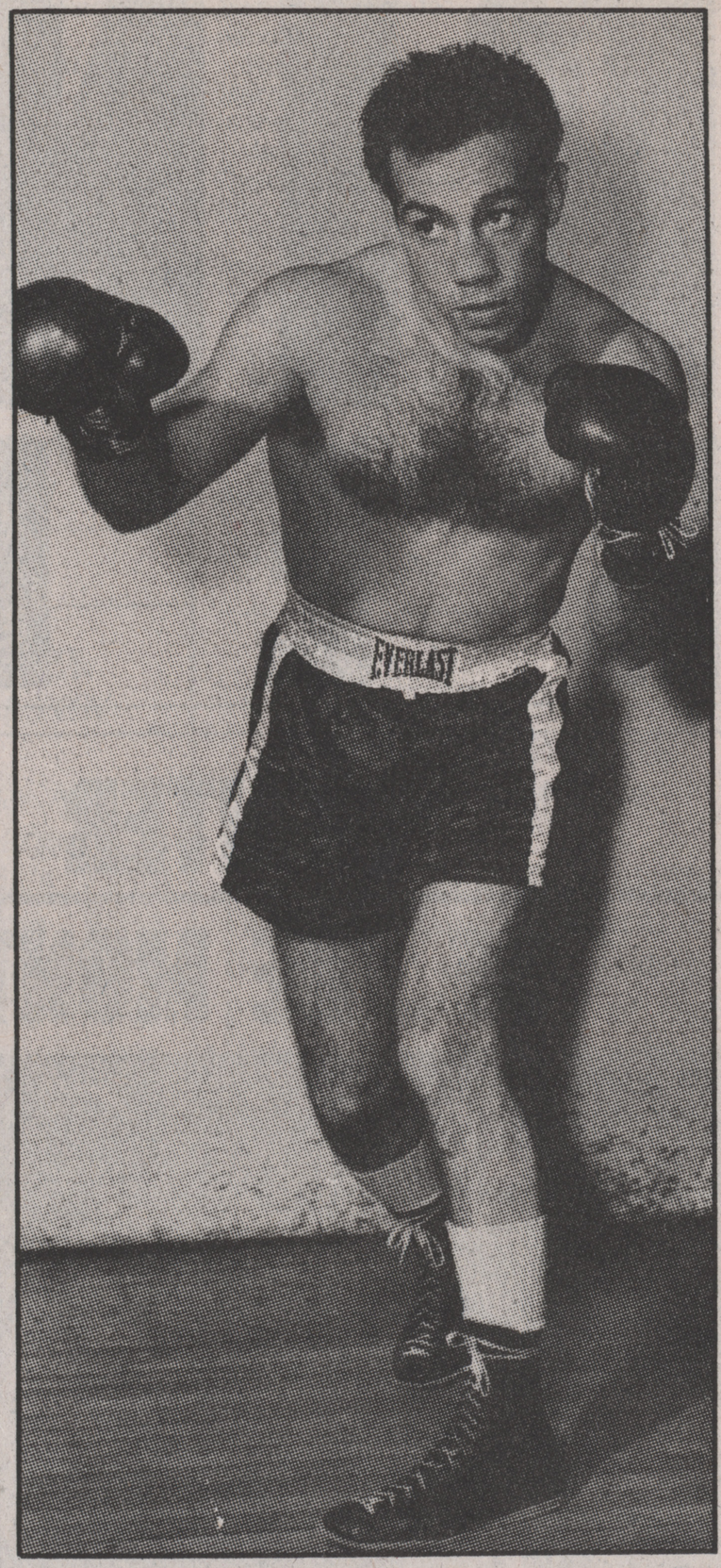


Lauro Salas

30. LAURO SALAS (1952): Mexican-born Salas holds a somewhat dubious distinction, having the greatest number of losses of any lightweight champion. His championship reign of five months was also one of the division's briefest.

After losing his first chance at Carter's championship, Salas borrowed Carter's title, winning the rematch. But after two non-title knockout wins, Salas was outpointed by Carter and found himself an ex-champion. He fought on until 1961, but never had another championship fight. Then again, he probably didn't deserve one.

Salas was 85-52-13 with one no decision and 41 KOs, though it is believed he had additional bouts. His record against other lightweight champions: Carter (L15); Carter (W15); Carter (L15); Carter (L10). Salas was born in 1928.



Paddy DeMarco

31. PADDY DEMARCO (1954): Pasquale G. DeMarco was another who borrowed the title briefly from Carter, holding it just eight months.

DeMarco constructed a nice record in the first six years of his career. Then, he went into a tailspin, winning just six of 13. Still, a decision over highly regarded Ralph Dupas gave DeMarco a crack at Carter, and he surprised the erratic champion by winning a decision. In his next fight DeMarco was stopped in the 15th by Carter. He never got another world championship fight, probably because he won just seven of his remaining 22 starts.

DeMarco finished 75-26-3 and had just eight KOs. He was stopped seven times. His record against other lightweight champions: Carter (W15); Carter (TKOby15). DeMarco was born in 1928. □

RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH

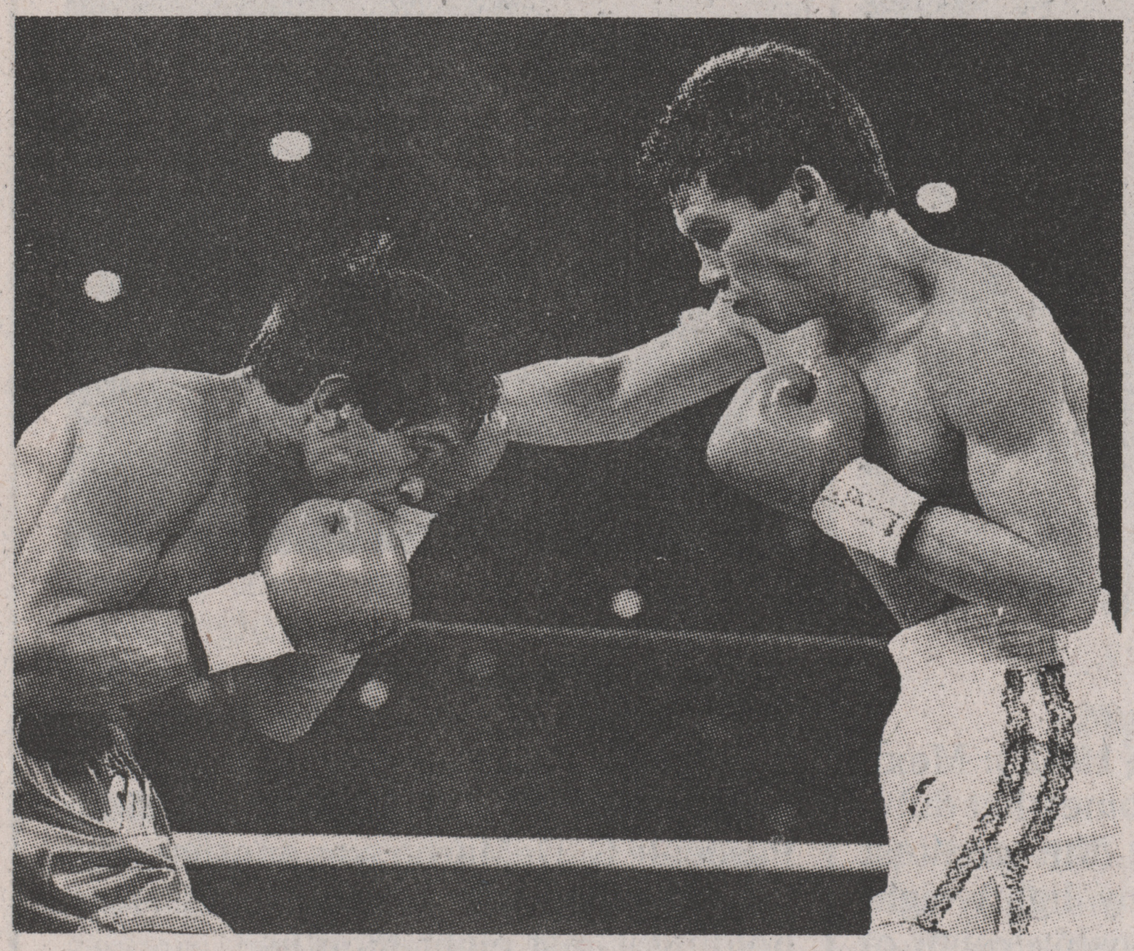


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Julio Cesar Chavez (right) on his way to an 11-round technical decision over Jose Luis Ramirez in a battle for the vacant world lightweight title in Las Vegas. Chavez also garnered THE RING's Fighter of the Month honors.

This month's top honors go to **Julio Cesar Chavez**, who unified the WBA and WBC lightweight titles by beating Jose Luis Ramirez via an 11-round technical decision in a battle of Mexican titleholders. As announced prior to the bout, *The Ring* recognizes the winner as the genuine lightweight champion of the world.

Another Mexican, **Raul Perez**, earns the runner-up spot by virtue of his 12-round unanimous decision over Miguel "Happy" Lora for the WBC bantamweight belt on the Chavez-Ramirez undercard in Las Vegas.

A quartet of honorable mentions go to England's **Duke McKenzie**, Jamaica's **Simon Brown**, Colombia's **Fidel Bassa** and Puerto Rico's **Juan Carazo**. McKenzie kayoed Rolando Bohol in 11 rounds to capture the IBF lightweight title; Brown defended his IBF welterweight crown with a unanimous 12-round decision over Switzerland's Mauro Martelli; Bassa kept his WBA flyweight title by turning back the stubborn challenge of American Ray Medel; and Carazo outpointed highly rated bantam Santos Laciar. □

GALAXY - CHOI
WBA Jr. Bantamweight Title

SEOUL — WITH THE CONclusion of the Olympic Games, world title fights returned to this city. But the first was a disappointing mismatch.

Thai lefty Kaosai Galaxy, the WBA junior bantamweight titleholder, easily defended his title for the eighth time as he banged out Korean Chang-Ho Choi at 0:56 of the eighth of a scheduled 12 at the Sheraton Walker Hill Hotel. Choi was down four times and was a bloody mess.

Though Choi, at 5-8, was three inches taller, each weighed 115 and Galaxy was much more muscular and stronger. But Choi, a former IBF flyweight titleholder, was regarded as good opposition for Galaxy. Instead, he was miserably overpowered and overwhelmed.

Choi, 24, kept moving, refusing to exchange blows, and the 29-year-old Galaxy took the first two rounds easily. Choi tried some sharp punches in the third, but most were blocked. In the fourth, Galaxy caught his challenger with a solid left uppercut that floored him. Galaxy tried to end it there and again floored Choi with a right hook. Another right hook floored Choi again, but referee Larry Rozadilla generously allowed the challenger to fight on.

In no hurry to finish Choi, Galaxy took his time in the next few rounds and Choi tried to come back in the seventh. But Galaxy had little trouble thwarting his attacks.

In the eighth, Galaxy cut off the ring, pinned Choi in a corner and unleashed a barrage that put Choi down like a flattened pancake. Rozadilla promptly called a stoppage.

The defending titleholder, ranked No. 2 by *The Ring* in the bantamweight division, bettered his log to 37-1 with 33 KOs. Choi fell to 15-4 with 11 KOs. Though Galaxy seems to be slowing and his reflexes appear to be fading after his reign of almost four years, he still has a tremendous killer instinct and it is understandable that contenders are gunning for a crack at the soft-punching WBC titleholder Gilberto Roman rather than the Thai mighty atom.

Galaxy received $90,000,

while Choi earned just $6,900. Before the stoppage, Bernardo Soto of Florida (69-62), Steve Smoger of New Jersey (69-64) and Kazunobu Asao of Japan (69-62) all had Galaxy in front.

Promoter: Kukdong Promotions.
TV: KBS in Korea.
(10-9-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

ROCCHIGIANI - REID
IBF Super Middleweight Title

BERLIN — PROMOTER WILfried Sauerland had threatened to pull out of this show because of a lack of support for Germany's IBF super middleweight titleholder Graciano Rocchigiani. But the excitement exhibited by the crowd of 5,374 that attended Rocchigiani's title defense against Chris Reid in the Deutschlandhalle proved boxing still does have an audience here.

Rocchigiani, ranked 9th in *The Ring's* light heavyweight ratings, kept his title, stopping the New Yorker in the 11th round of a scheduled 12. The victory put Rocchigiani in line for some lucrative defenses, with European champion Chris Tiozzo waiting in Paris and Tarmo Uusivirta in Finland. However, the encouraging crowd could see Rocchigiani defending again on his home turf, possibly against South African Sugar Boy Malinga.

Reid, 165½, hacked away vigorously in every round, finally burning himself out. Wise corner counseling by Mickey Duff saved him from further needless harm, the towel being tossed at 2:39. It was the first time Reid had gone past 10 rounds and just two of his 23 fights had gone into the 10th.

Utilizing his puzzling southpaw style, Rocchigiani, now 26-0, was ahead by a mile at the start of the 11th and only a KO could have saved the day for Reid. Seldom in recent years has a German turned in a more immaculate performance.

Blood trickled from Reid's left eyebrow in the eighth, and the challenger found himself on the canvas though American referee Frank Cappuccino quite rightly ruled a slip. A short left hook to the jaw put Reid in trouble in the 11th and another five blows to the head followed. The surrender towel did not come a minute too soon.

Duff called Reid, "an intelligent boxer. Not invincible, but he will be hard to beat."

Bob Goodman of Madison Square Garden added, "He's a brilliant boxer and has a good defense."

But Reid said Rocchigiani, 166¼, could punch as well, claiming the German hit harder than WBA titleholder Fulgencio Obelmejias.

Stephan Nordin stopped Yurder Demircan in the heavyweight curtain raiser, the end coming at 2:22 of the sixth and final round. The German-born Nordin is 3-0, with Demircan, a Turk based in Germany, losing for the first time in three starts.

Dutch light heavyweight Alex Blanchard knocked out Turk Agamali Yilderim in five for his 25th KO in his 32-2-3 record. Yilderim, based in Germany, has won 19 of 33 outings.

Brazilian Alex Alves, now a German citizen, displayed star potential knocking out John Held in the first round. Alves is undefeated in nine starts. Held has won six of 10.

The rematch between middleweights Mario Dito and Teddy Jansen ended with Dito a knockout winner in two rounds. Three weeks earlier, Dito had ruined his pro debut by knocking down Jansen, then hitting him while he was down to draw a disqualification.

Senturn Ozdemir stopped Faycal Bejaoui in four rounds of a welterweight match. Ozdemir has lost two of 11, Bejaoui has five wins in seven tries.

Southpaw Peter Konyengwachie expected to face Zimbabwe's Charles Mandeya for the vacant Commonwealth super featherweight title, but Mandeya cried off because of injury and the Nigerian knocked out sub Ricky West of Cleveland in two rounds. Konyengwachie is unbeaten in 12 pro starts since winning a silver medal at the Los Angeles Olympics.

Promoters: Wilfried Sauerland & Mickey Duff.
Matchmakers: Ebby Thust, Jean Marcel Nartz & Peter Bedewitz.
Announcer: Herbert Kanz.
Timekeepers: Gerd Riethenauer & Ernst Kock.
Attendance: 5,374.
Physicians: Walter Wagner & Bruno Holyk.
Judges: (title fight) Edmond Horn, Joe Rivera & Kurt Halbach.
(10-7-88)

JACK TREE

BASSA - MEDEL
WBA Flyweight Title

SAN ANTONIO — LOCAL RAY Medel's late charge fell short as Colombia's Fidel Bassa retained his WBA flyweight title with a unanimous 12-round decision that displeased Medel's supporters.

Canada's Guy Jutras and Panama's Rodolfo Hill gave Bassa a comfortable edge, Jutras scoring 117-111, Hill, 116-112. Julio Roldan of Venezuela saw it much closer, 116-115.

Bassa remained undefeated at 21-0-1, but paid a price with cuts over the right eye, on the bridge of the nose and along the hairline. The 25-year-old titleholder was shaken in the final two rounds and slipped to the canvas in the 11th, but Medel's rally was not enough.

The USBA champion, at 112, one pound more than Bassa, also hurt Bassa in the eighth and 10th frames, but each time Bassa battled back.

Referee Enzo Montero deducted one point from Medel in the seventh for pushing Bassa's head down.

Bassa entered the contest ranked No. 3 by *The Ring*, with Medel ranked eighth.

Jesse Benavides bounced back from his knockout loss to Pedro Decima to unanimously outpoint Richard Abila over 10. Benavides weighed 122½ to 119½ for Abila.

A second scheduled 10 ended quickly, Ralph Reyes, 126½, stopping Manuel Fernandez, 129, at 2:56 of the second.

Robert Quiroga, 116, stopped Albert Mercado, 115, with only 1:03 remaining in their scheduled eight.

James Leija, 125, stopped Oscar Davis, 123½, in just 1:56 of a scheduled four.

Roland Rangel, 132½, won a unanimous four-round decision over Raymond Flores, 134½.

Promoter: Rich Lander.
Physician: Zavalla.
Referees: Roy Ovalle & Leonard Zuniga.
Timekeeper: Joe Masterpool.
Judges: Wilfredo Esparon, Vince Amaya & Steve Jaramillo.

(10-2-88)

McKENZIE - BOHOL
IBF Flyweight Title

LONDON — ENGLAND'S Duke McKenzie captured the IBF flyweight title, stopping Rolando Bohol of the Philippines in the 11th round at Wembley Grand Hall.

McKenzie was well ahead when he floored Bohol twice, prompting the titleholder's corner to throw in the towel. However, the final result was listed as a count out at 2:25.

McKenzie, ranked ninth by *The Ring* before the bout, had, at 5-7, a three-inch height advantage on Bohol, who was ranked sixth. Each weighed 112. Korea's Yong-Kang Kim is recognized as *the* world flyweight champion. The 25-year-old McKenzie is 21-0 with 11 knockouts, while Bohol was stopped for the first time in a 24-3-2 record. However, Bohol has lost the only two times he has fought outside the Philippines.

Bohol held his own the first few rounds, but landed several low blows and was penalized a point in the fifth round by referee Bruce McTavish. In the eighth, Bohol suffered a cut over the left eye.

On the undercard, Michael Hughes, 149, St. Pancras, stopped Chris Blake, 150, Croydon, at 1:55 of the fifth of a scheduled eight. There were no

knockdowns, but Hughes, 13-2 with 11 KOs, had Blake's left eye nearly closed at the finish.

Errol McDonald, 149, Nottingham, stopped Mexico's Alfredo Reyes at 1:20 of the second round of a lopsided scheduled eight. Reyes offered no competition before going down for the count as McDonald improved to 14-0-1.

Jimmy Peters, 176½, Southampton, ran up his ninth straight win with an eight-round decision over Mike Aubrey, 178, Romford. Referee Denzil Lewis scored 79½-76½. There were no knockdowns, but Aubrey was cut over the left eyebrow.

South African Grant Messiahs, 134, stopped Lee Amas, 134½, Gravesend, at 1:05 of the fifth of a scheduled six-round slugout. The two pounded each other, Amass suffering a cut over the left eye in the first round, until Messiahs floored the Brit with a left hook. A left-right dropped Amass a second time and referee Reg Thompson called a halt.

Derek Grainger, 148½, Bethnal Green, made his mark 5-0 with a four-round decision over Gerry Beard, 155, Nottingham. Thompson scored 40-38½.

Gary Logan, 147½, Brixton, made a successful pro debut with a three-round stoppage of Gary Peppy Muir, 149½, Belfast. Muir suffered a damaged right hand, but Logan had swept all three frames.

(10-5-88)

ESTRADA - MUGURUMA

WBA Jr. Featherweight Title

MORIGUCHI, JAPAN — MEXican Juan Jose Estrada, 122, retained his WBA junior featherweight title as he battered former WBA bantamweight titleholder Takuya Muguruma, 122, from all angles before halting him at 2:07 of the 11th round of a scheduled 12 at Moriguchi Municipal Gymnasium.

The 24-year-old Mexican, making his first defense since upsetting Bernardo Pinango in May, was much stronger than expected. He started fireworks from the start with sharp triple lefts and heavy one-twos. In the second, the 26-year-old Muguruma landed a countering ieft hook, but Estrada came back fiercely with incessant combinations featuring a left hook to the face followed quickly by a left hook to the body and a wicked overhand right. Estrada was stalking all the way and almost decked Muguruma in this frame.

Muguruma is a Japanese Gene Fullmer, whose rough-and-tumble style always produces furious give-and-take battles. Whether he wins or loses, Muguruma suffers cuts and bruises, but never fails to entertain. He began the fourth aggressively and shook the stout Estrada. But the titleholder landed a well-timed right that dropped Muguruma to his knee. When Muguruma got up, Estrada went all out for the kill, chasing the Japanese from pillar to post.

Surprisingly, Muguruma rallied in the next round, but Estrada retaliated with sharper punches. Muguruma took the next two frames, though, as it appeared Estrada was tiring from his early effort. Occasionally, Muguruma pinned Estrada to the ropes, but most of his punches were inaccurate and by the end of the seventh Muguruma's left eye was badly puffed.

The Mexican changed his strategy in the eighth, boxing from the outside instead of fighting in close. Circling, he scored with good long jabs and rights. The flat-footed challenger became bewildered and frustrated by his inability to catch Estrada, who took the ninth with the same tactics.

The two mixed in Round 10, with Estrada having the edge. But a clash of heads opened a cut on Estrada's left eyelid and action was paused as the ringside physician checked it over. It wasn't that bad and Estrada finished the round strong.

In the 11th, a beautiful right cross sent Muguruma to his knees. He was hurt and barely made it up. Estrada swarmed all over the groggy challenger and the towel was tossed in by the loser's manager, Kiyoshi Yoshii.

At the finish, Samuel Conde of Puerto Rico (98-94), Marcos Torres of Panama (97-92) and Silvester Abainza of the Philippines (99-94) all had Estrada well ahead. The victory left Estrada, ranked No. 5 by *The Ring* in the featherweight division, 33-7 with 27 KOs, while Muguruma fell to 26-3-2 with 20 KOs.

"He was courageous and durable," Estrada said, praising Mugurma. "He was one of the strongest I have met. But I showed my power and proved I was the better fighter."

Muguruma, whose left eye was swollen completely, said with gloom, "Estrada was much stronger than I had thought. I had him at bay in the sixth round, but I couldn't keep punching as I received too many good blows before that. I was beaten clearly."

Muguruma, a university graduate, may call it quits.

Promoter: Osaka Teiken Promotions.

Attendance: 4,600 (est.).

(10-16-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

WILLIAMS - ANGULO

IBF Light Heavyweight Title

BORDEAUX, FRANCE — THE Tour de France for Prince Charles Williams made a brief stop in wine country as the IBF light heavyweight champion walked through French challenger Rufino Angulo, scoring a third-round knockout and retaining his title for the second time.

In earlier 1988 stops on the tour, Prince Charles KO'd Jim Shavers in a Paris non-title fight, then stopped French champion Richard Caramanolis in his first title defense in Annecy, a resort town near the Swiss border.

Against Angulo, Williams, ranked No. 1 by *The Ring*, turned in the finest performance of his 10-year career, which began at the age of 16.

Williams, 26, of Mansfield, OH, completely dominated his mandatory challenger, backing up the hometown favorite with double jabs, straight rights to the head and short left hooks to the body on the inside.

Angulo, 32, who last year went the 12-round limit with WBA champion Virgil Hill in Paris, was cut high on the forehead in the first round and his right eye was bloodied in the second and nearly closed when it was over. He made four trips to the canvas — two in the second, two in the third — before referee Joe O'Neill, of the United States, stopped the slaughter.

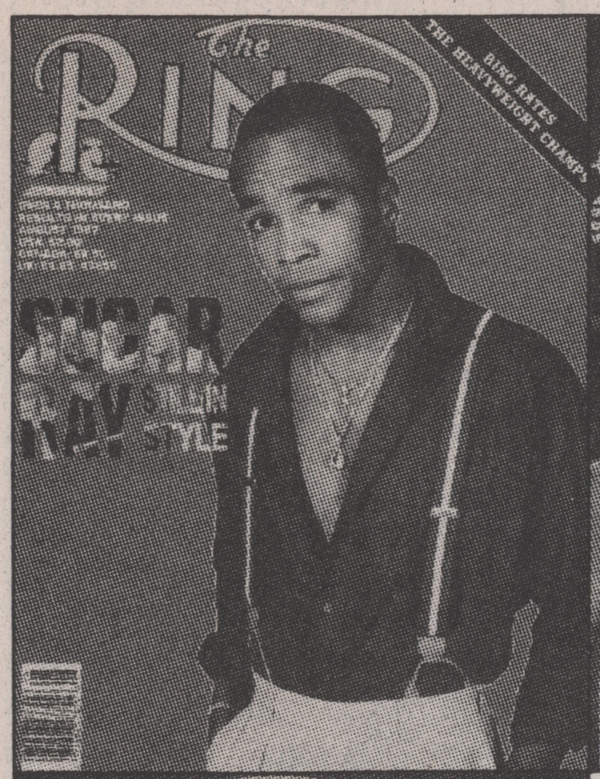
"It was like a light heavyweight against a middleweight," O'Neill commented later. "I've never seen Williams so strong."

The champion weighed 174½, one pound more than the challenger.

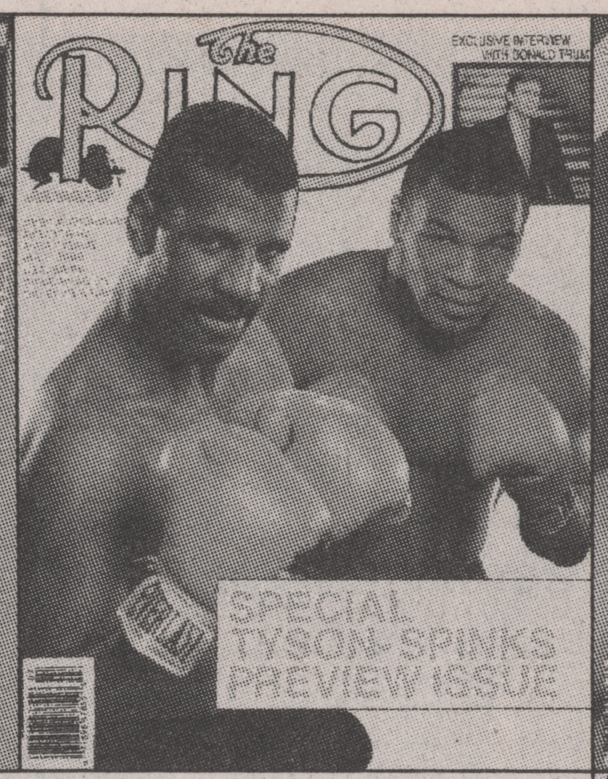
"He (Angulo) hit me one good shot, right on the chin, in the third round, but it never bothered me," said Williams. "I was ready for anything. I felt like I was on fire."

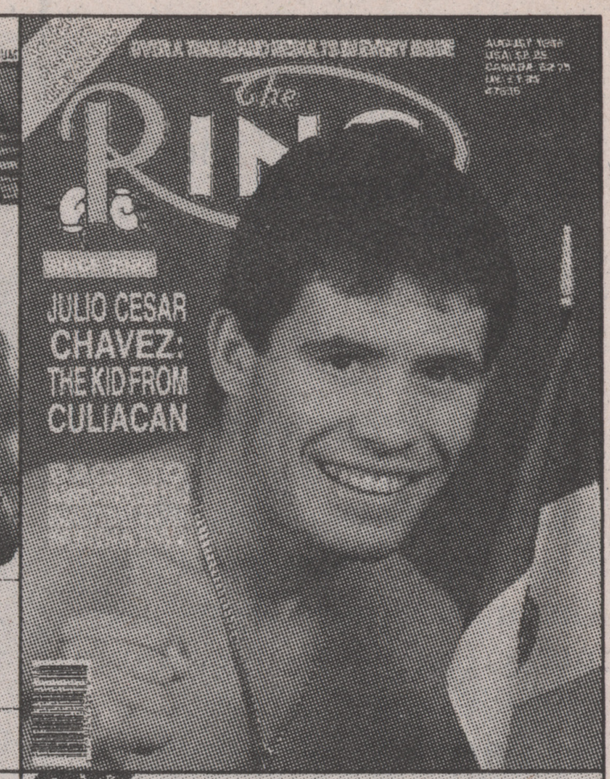
It was the 13th consecutive victory for Williams, whose last loss was a 10-round decision to three-time titleholder Marvin Johnson Nov. 8, 1984 in Indianapolis. He has 17 KOs

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on his 25-4-2 log.

For Angulo, it could be the end of the line. He briefly spoke about retirement in the dressing room after the fight. His 28-9-3 record includes 12 knockouts.

Across the hall, where Williams was signing autographs, manager Ms. Gerry Stapleton was sorting through offers from Germany, Italy, The Cameroons and, of course, France.

"We'd love to fight on American television, but I don't think we have to go begging anymore," said Ms. Stapleton. "The Europeans love Charles and we're having a good time, getting paid well, gaining experience and defending our title. Charles is only 26 and we've got plenty of time. We're in no hurry."

Viva la France!

Cruiserweight prospect Nate "Mr." Miller of Philadelphia suffered his first defeat after 13 straight wins when African Siriki Sonogo gained an eight-round decision. Miller, 188½, was penalized one point in the third round for "ducking into his opponent" and that turned out to be the difference in the scoring. Sonogo, 189½, improved to 7-2-2. (10-21-88)

ROGER BEYCHEVELLE

MAYWEATHER – GONZALES
WBC Super Lightweight Title

LOS ANGELES — IN A PERformance so dominating it bordered on methodical, Roger Mayweather, 140, defended his WBC super lightweight title with a 12-round stoppage of Mexican Rodolfo "Gato" Gonzales at the Sports Arena.

Mayweather, *The Ring*'s sixth-ranked welterweight, pounded Gonzales, 140, throughout, causing the challenger's mouth to bleed and his left eye to swell. But he couldn't drop him until the final frame, when a solid right put him down. Gonzales got up, but Mayweather opened up and referee Lou Filippo stopped the bout with just 47 seconds left.

Mayweather, who fights out of Las Vegas, was penalized a point in the eighth round for holding and hitting, but was still well ahead on all cards, Canadian Dave Brown scoring 108-101, American Dick Young 108-100 and Puerto Rican Angel Guzman, 107-103.

A 10-round war highlighted the undercard as **Genaro Leon** won a 10-round majority decision over **Young Dick Tiger**. Tiger was staggered several times, but always fought back to hurt Leon as the two pounded away throughout. Before the final round was over, a shower of money landed in the ring. Leon received scores of 97-93 and 96-95, with the third judge calling it 95-95. (9-22-88)

BROWN - MARTELLI
IBF Welterweight Title

LAUSANNE, SWITZERland — A crowd of over 10,000 saw local-based Italian Mauro Martelli fall short in his bid to unseat Washington, D.C.-based Jamaican Simon Brown as IBF welterweight titleholder.

Brown, *The Ring*'s No. 1 contender, defended his title for the second time, winning a unanimous 12-round decision. Brown took the vacant title with a stoppage of Tyrone Trice, then stopped former world champion Jorge Vaca in his first defense. Vaca had borrowed the championship briefly from England's Lloyd Honeyghan, but Honeyghan won the rematch and still holds the crown.

Martelli, the European champion, had won his first 33 fights.

Brown was the aggressor and Martelli fought cautiously, particularly after being hurt in the second. But in the fifth Martelli came on, though never enough to seriously challenge Brown, who controlled the bout throughout.

French southpaw Antoine Fernandez was showcased on the undercard, coming through with a six-round stoppage of American Mike Esset. The welterweight match was scheduled for eight. (10-14-88)

POLL - SOLIS
NABF Super Bantamweight Title

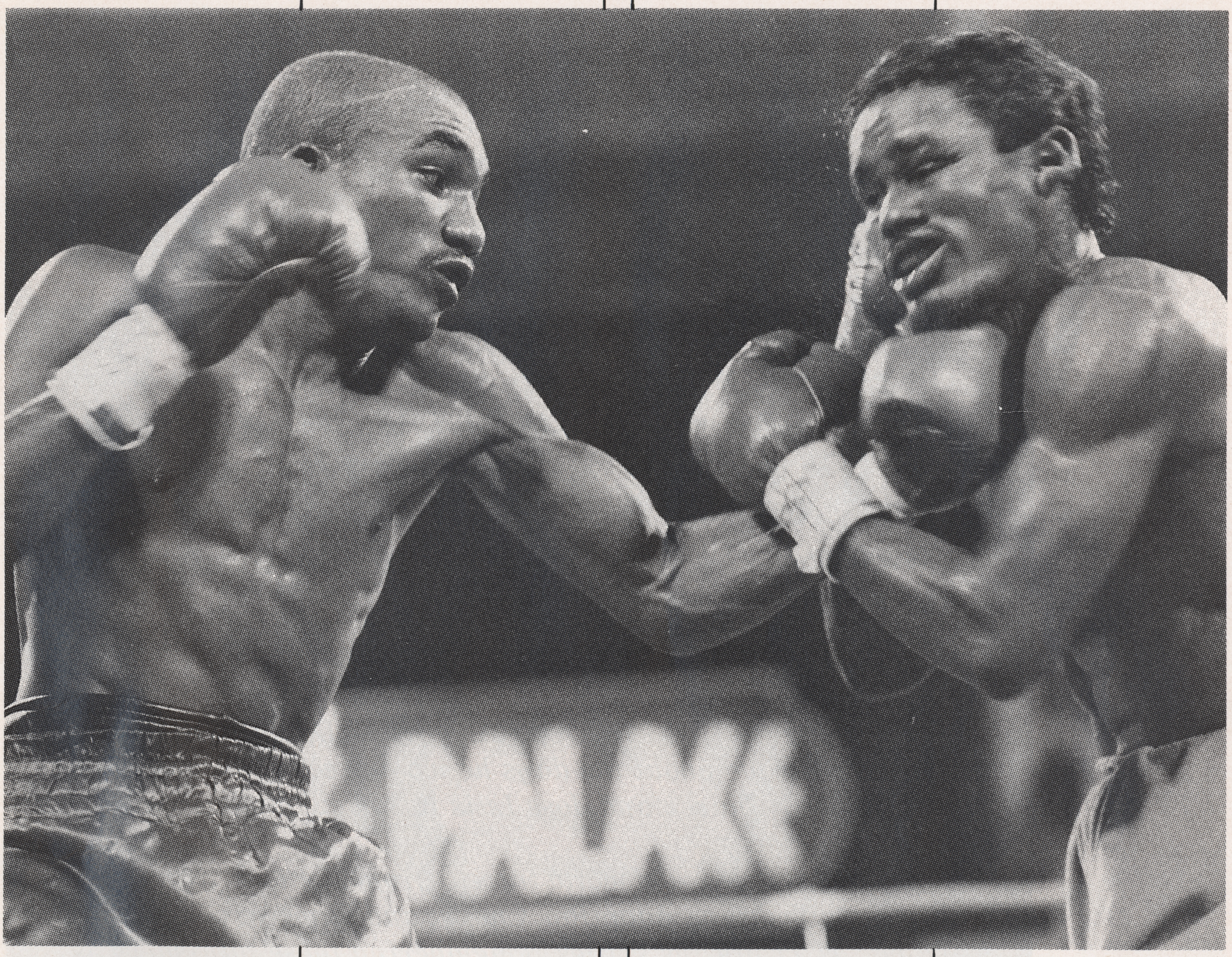
LAS VEGAS — JESUS POLL should forget worrying about a world title shot in the immediate future. Instead, he should feel lucky to still own the NABF super bantamweight crown.

Top Rank dangled more than a carrot in front of Poll and Julian Solis as Bob Arum held a special show for 300 high rollers who flew in from Brazil. The reward, a shot for the winner at Jose Sanabria's IBF super bantamweight title. When the hard-fought bout was over, both Poll and Solis figured they had earned the reward.

Technically, Poll, working for Ten Goose Stable out of North Hollywood, California, gained first consideration when he won a unanimous, but controversial 12-round decision over Solis, who claimed the world bantamweight championship for a couple of months in 1980. Poll, 122, improved to 19-0-2 with four KOs, but needed a



PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA



Jesus Poll (left) distorts the face of former bantamweight boss Julian Solis en route to a close 12-round decision at Caesars Palace.

third-round knockdown and two penalty points to stay unbeaten.

Referee Toby Gibson docked Solis in the eighth round for a low blow and in the 12th round for wrestling. Those deductions made the difference as Dave Nelson of California and Paul Smith of Las Vegas each scored 113-112 for Poll, while Chuck Giampa of Vegas had it 114-111 for the winner.

George Cruz, manager/trainer of Solis, immediately filed a protest with the Nevada commission primarily based on what he called, "the referee's incompetence."

Cruz exploded, "I don't see how he is permitted to referee any fighters, anywhere. The public knew who won the fight and that's why they were booing. When people pay good money they should see a just decision and not be cheated. When Solis caught Poll with a good right and he went down in the 11th round, the referee waved it as a slip. Neither fighter should be favored over the other."

The 31-year-old Solis, 121, formerly of Puerto Rico but now based in Hartford, Connecticut, showed his great condition in the third when he was dropped by a left-right to the jaw. He beat the count, and two rounds later was scoring well with sharp body punching.

Solis, who lost his world bantamweight championship when knocked out by Jeff Chandler, complained, "It seems anymore if I'm not at home in Hartford or Puerto Rico I have to knock a guy out if I'm going to win."

But Poll countered, "I know I had a good knockdown, so I was surprised the decision was so close. He was always right there in front of me."

On the undercard, **Jose Adilson Rodrigues,**, 234, Aracju, Brazil, made his American debut with an easy KO of Mark Lee, 217, Carson City, Nevada, at 2:34 of the first round. Rodrigues, ranked No. 5 by the *The Ring*, moved to 32-2 with 25 KOs while Lee fell to 27-14 with 15 KOs.

Johnny Tapia, 116, Albuquerque, improved to 6-0-1, five KOs, when he erased Jorge Salinas, 117, Tijuana, at 2:35 of the first of a scheduled six.

Gabriel Ruelas, 122, North Hollywood, made it three straight when he knocked out Jaime Morales, 123, Tijuana, in 37 seconds.

A scheduled five-round bout between Troy Weaver, 168, Diamond Bar, California, and Juan Scaglia, 166, Argentina, was ruled a technical draw when Scaglia was unable to continue after receiving a deep cut over his right eye from an accidental third-round butt.

Promoter: Top Rank.

(10-14-88)

JACK WELSH

CHAVEZ WINS WORLD LIGHTWEIGHT TITLE

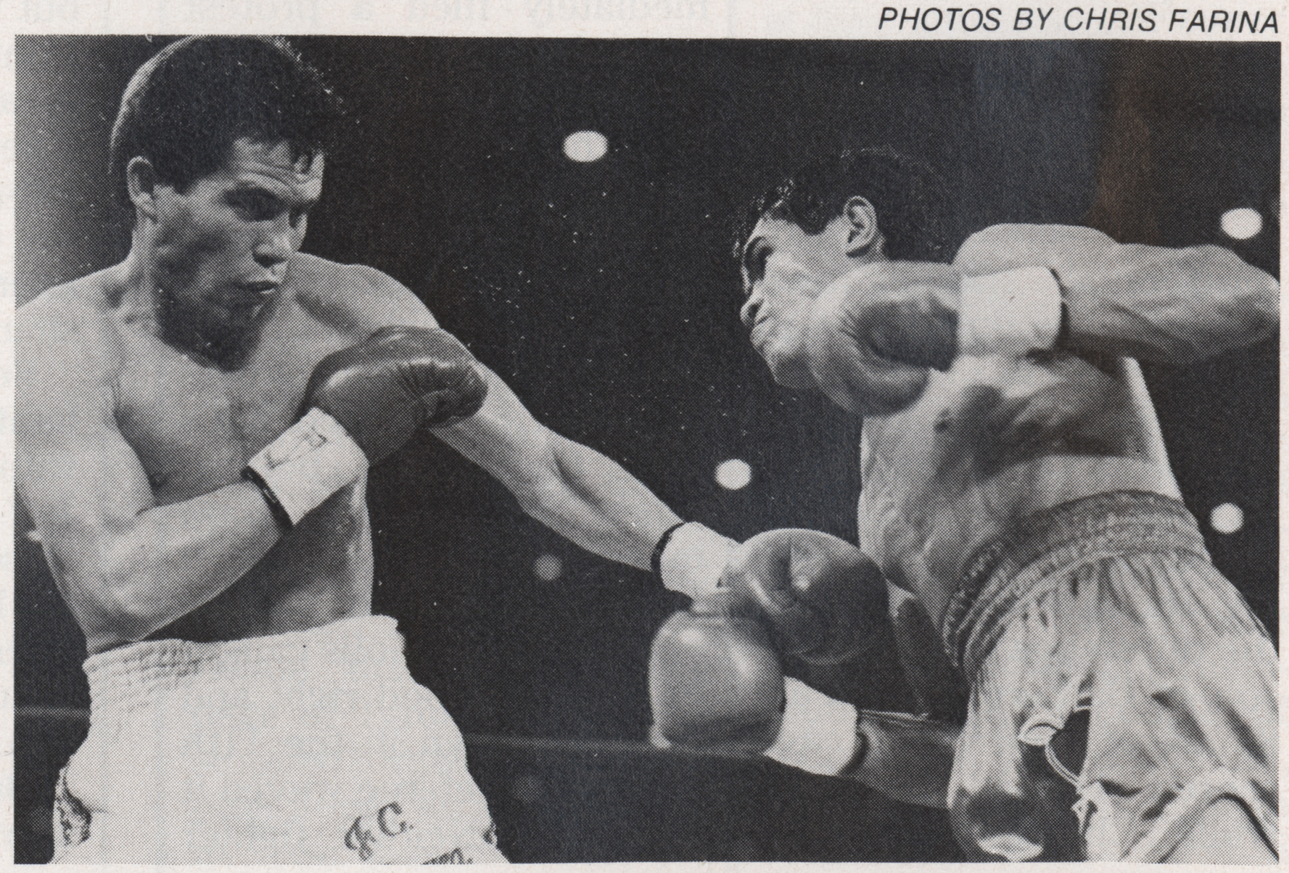
by Jack Welsh

New Champ Seeks Superstar Status Following Technical Victory Over Ramirez

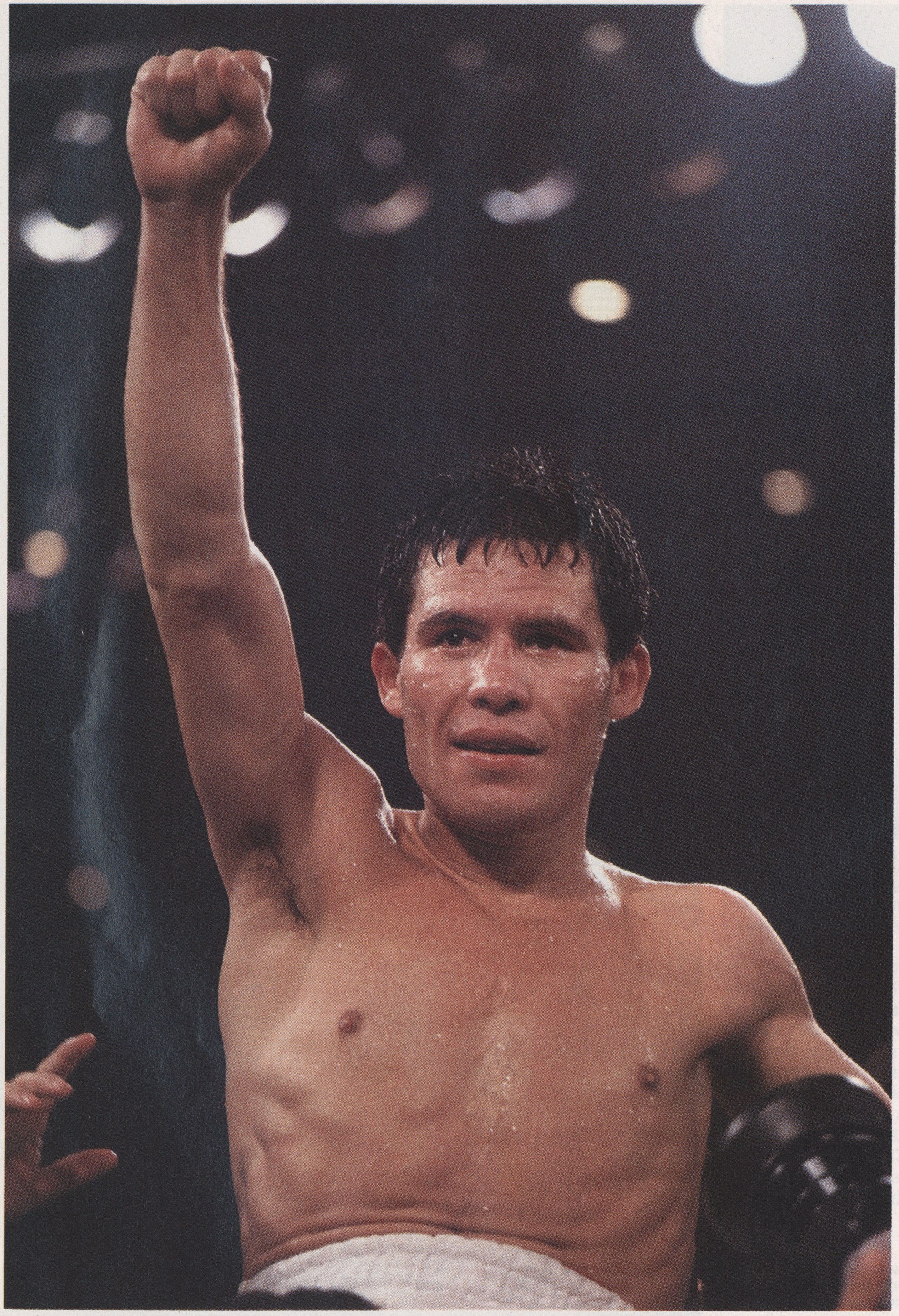
LAS VEGAS — GREGARIOUS RAMON FELIX WAS REFLECTING not so long ago about the days he was wheeling and dealing for Julio Cesar Chavez and Jose Luis Ramirez on both sides of the Mexican border.

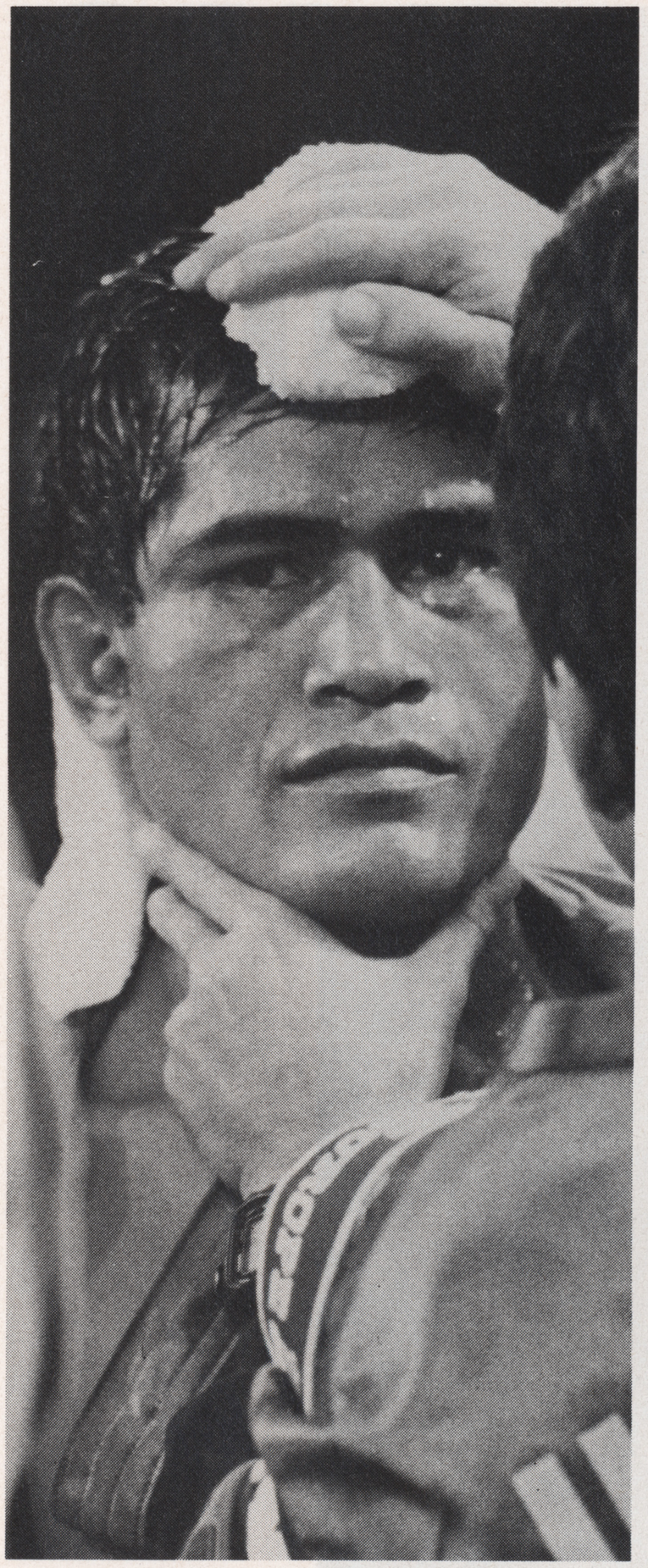
Had the 41-year-old world traveler from Mexico City harbored a parental pang for adoption, Chavez and Ramirez would have been a lock. Felix always smiles remembering these punishers as "a couple of raw-boned kids who grew up on the same street in Culiacan and were at my house practically every day to be fed."

PHOTOS BY CHRIS FARINA



Chavez (left), who fought a cautious fight to protect his injured ribs, pulls away as Ramirez tries to mount a rally.

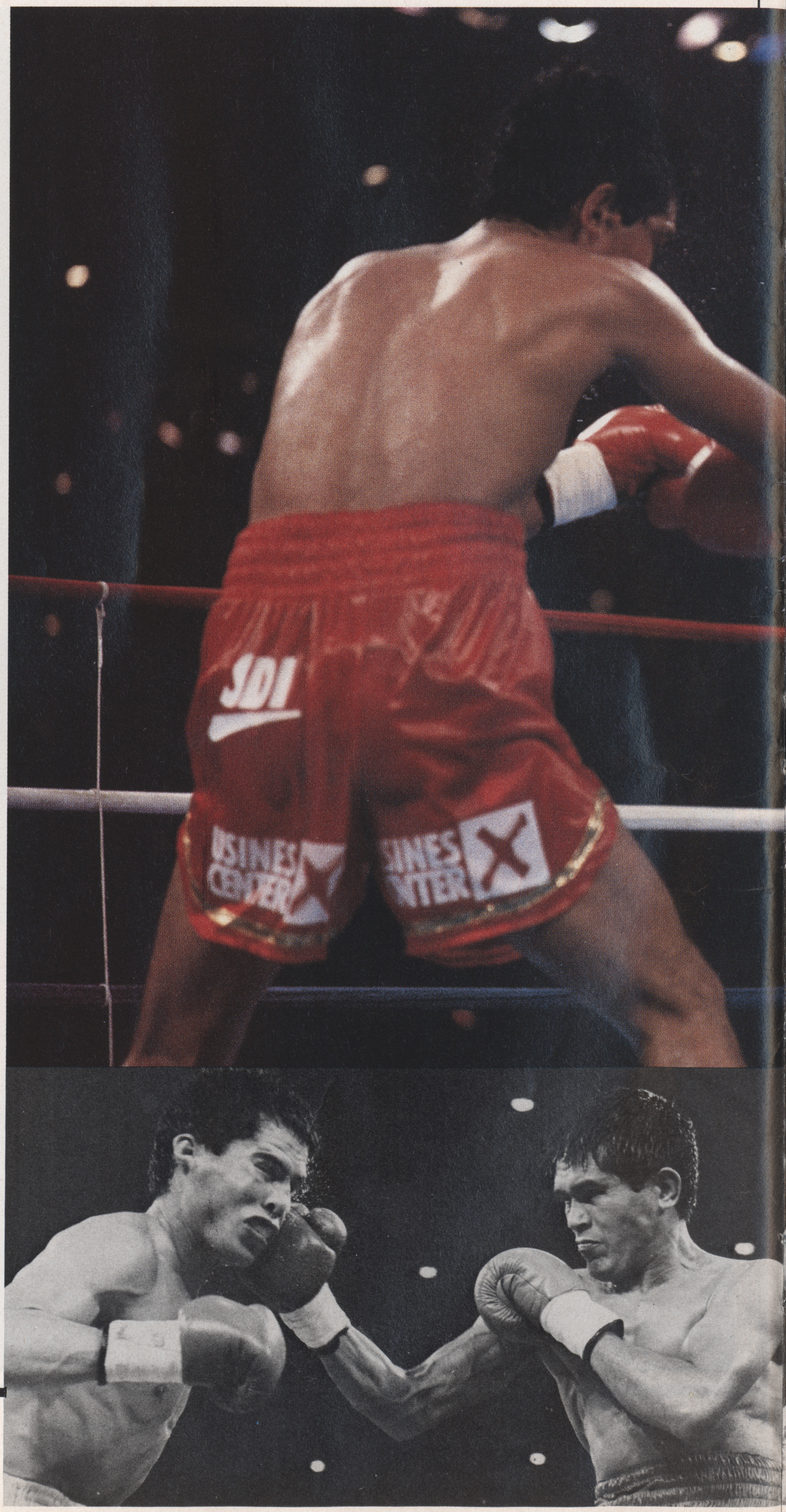




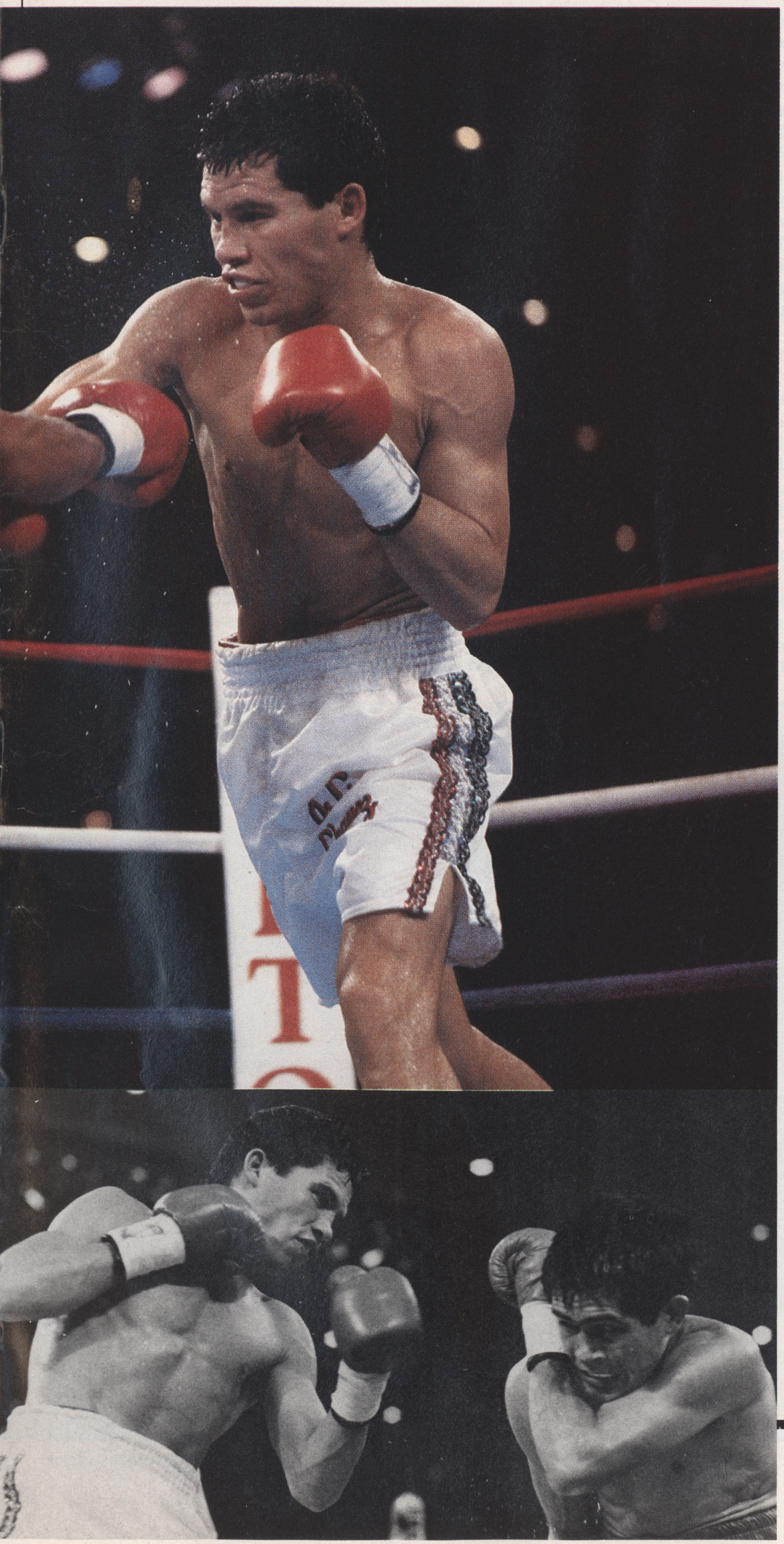
Ramirez looks on sadly as a cornerman tries to stop the blood flowing from the cut on his scalp. Naturally, the former WBC champ wants a rematch.

Ramirez, who turned pro at 14, had 63 fights in a seven-year run before Chavez chucked a 15-fight amateur career in 1980 to seek the better things in life.

Ironically, Felix's boxing daily double graced him with their first championships in 1984 — Chavez, then 22, chilling Mario Martinez in eight rounds in Los Angeles to win the World Boxing



The bout was far from one-sided. Ramirez (right) nails Chavez flush with a right to the jaw.



Council junior lightweight title in September, two months and three days before the old pro Ramirez shocked San Juan by taking Edwin Rosario's WBC lightweight laurels on a four-round knockout.

Friends, stablemates, and sparring partners, Chavez and Ramirez were opposites outside the ring, Julio Cesar effervescent with the boy-next-door good looks ... Jose Luis looming like an Aztec warrior, ever stoic, who seemed to be forcing it even when the grin was honest.

Chavez was understandably the understudy at the outset, but beyond his fistic potential, there was an intangible quality prodding Felix to tell amigos in and around Mexico City "this kid has the golden touch to be another King Midas."

Even though Julio and Ramon broke two years ago contractually (Chavez paying him $300,000 for freedom with Cristobal Rosas becoming manager), the likeable Felix was still drawing accolades for clairvoyance when his divided proteges met on the last weekend in October for the world lightweight championship in Las Vegas.

After all, how many times in the annals of the Sweet Science can any manager come up with two fighters who threaten the ultimate in perfection and productive longevity — Chavez coming to the gloved shootout with 61-0, 51 KOs credentials, and Ramirez, stopped only once (by his idol, the incomparable Ruben Olivares, in 1978), holding a 101-6, 82 KOs record.

Perhaps Felix should have recalled boxing is a sometime dubious industry with rumors rampant, usually three for a peso (and you know what the cash devaluation is today in Mexico). At the very least, considering the matchup was amid a Halloween environment, the rotund Latin mentor may have been wise to opt, on a hunch, for a latter-day Houdini.

And maybe even the legendary man of magic couldn't have penetrated the pill box of mystery which eliminated any possible dialogue about the true condition of Chavez's ribs.

Today the 26-year-old Chavez is back in Culiacan still generating national

Ramirez (right) covers up as Chavez attacks during one of the fight's many exchanges.

adulation, having wound up as the world monarch because Ramirez's punches weren't as painful as they might have been if the secret about Julio's rib had leaked before he collected an ending nobody wanted — an 11th-round technical victory.

As things turned out, Julio literally and figuratively used his head, although the former arrived on an accidental butt deep on Ramirez's forehead. The sudden ending came in the first 50 seconds of the round, much to the dismay of the packed house of over 8,000 at the Vegas Hilton. On impact, both fighters stopped in their tracks, just as Chavez was trying to get off a right, the weapon which became the payoff bomb on this particular night.

Chavez was the culprit, losing a point in Round 11 even though referee Richard Steele ruled the infraction accidental. It was purely academic considering the ultimate result. Steele, one of the top referees in the nation, rushed to Ramirez's aid as the WBC monarch touched the top of his head with a glove and a rivulet of blood trickled down Jose Luis' nose. Dr. Flip Homasky of the Nevada State Athletic Commission checked the wound, then looked toward the referee, shaking his head sideways.

"That cut was very deep and they weren't going to get that one closed. It was all the way down to the scalp," Dr. Homasky explained.

Steele added: "The cut was very bad. Ramirez fought a very courageous fight, but you can't let someone go on and fight with a cut like that. It's only going to get worse. If Dr. Homasky hadn't stopped it then, he certainly would have a few minutes later."

Ramirez was scowling over the abrupt ending, declaring: "I could have continued to fight, I was confident and felt I was ahead, winning the fight. Chavez was just boxing, I was putting the pressure on. I can't tell how bad the cut is because I haven't seen it."

The tableau for the CIA-like hush-hush on Chavez's rib injury actually began six weeks before the bout, shortly after he arrived at promoter Don King's training camp outside Cleveland in a rural stop called Orwell.

To explain the injury, Chavez stood and pulled up his T-shirt to show post-fight media the region of mishap on his left side.

"One day in a workout, Pedro Sanchez, a lightweight, hit me in the rib cage so hard I thought he drove me back to Culiacan," said Chavez through interpreter Jesus Rocha. "It happened September 10 and I missed 10 days of training when I came back from the hospital where they gave me some shots and pills to ease the pain.

"When I resumed training, I wore a protective jacket and they didn't hit me below the chest. Don King was willing to postpone the fight, but they had gone too far in promoting it. I'm just glad nobody found out about it. I know if Ramirez had heard what happened, he would have tried to hit me on those ribs."

Ramirez, who usually likes to declare war on the inside, said he "didn't know Chavez had been hurt," and it was evident the way the durable southpaw kept trying to play headhunter with a right jab that was more of an annoyance than an equalizer as the rounds wore on.

In retrospect, it is now clear Chavez's early strategy of moving from side to side, using head and shoulder feints



Raul Perez (left) takes a jab from defending champ Miguel "Happy" Lora during their bout for the WBC bantamweight title on the Chavez-Ramirez undercard. The lanky Mexican upset the odds and won the belt via a unanimous decision.

by Jack Welsh

PEREZ UPSETS LORA FOR WBC BANTAMWEIGHT TITLE

and even dipping under while counterpunching, was designed to protect the damaged cartilage.

It was also strange to see the all-winning glamour gladiator not relying extensively on that vicious left hook which set up the demise of Rosario when Julio won the WBA belt.

Unlike his controversial victory over 1984 Olympian Pernell Whitaker last March in Paris, Ramirez was out of character this trip with a quarter horse explosion from the gate, determinedly taking the action to his more-heralded adversary. Offensively, the second round was to be Ramirez's best when he backed the still-wary Chavez into his own corner with a seven-punch volley of jabs and uppercuts.

It proved to be expensive despite Ramirez's ambition to derail a rival lauded by Nevada's licensed bookmakers as a big favorite. Chavez swept the next six rounds on two of three scorecards, sometimes snapping off two and three unanswered rights to Ramirez's granite jaw.

The string almost came to an end in the fourth round. Again Ramirez was out quickly at the bell, pawing with the right as Chavez continued to change directions. After two brisk exchanges, Chavez rocked Ramirez with a right which sent him on a skid as his legs buckled and one glove came within an inch of touching the canvas to constitute a knockdown.

Chavez turned to seek a neutral corner, anticipating a referee's count, but he later admitted, "I thought Ramirez would fall down, but he didn't fall down." Surprisingly, Ramirez fought back effectively and tapped Chavez's shoulder at the bell.

In the official scoring, most observers felt the action in the ring wasn't as close as two of three judges indicated. Art Lurie of Las Vegas may have been a tad too wide at 98-91, but the consensus indicated Rudy Jordan of Los Angeles and Lou Tabat of Las Vegas may have tabbed it too close at 96-95 and 95-93, respectively. *The Ring* voted for Chavez, 97-92.

Chavez and Ramirez each received $350,000 for the exciting exercise, but that figure could have doubled by now, assuming all the money has been counted for the shares from Mexican and Latin-American TV networks.

It just might have been Chavez's last fight as a lightweight. The projection under King's promotional wing calls for work leading to seven-figure paydays, starting with a challenge of Mayweather in February in Los Angeles. Greg Haugen, the IBF counterpart, appears odd-man-out in his desire to fight Chavez at 135, coming off a 10th-round kayo of Denmark's Gert Bo Jacobsen in Copenhagen the night before King's Mexican Boxer Rebellion in the Valley of the Dollars.

King is readying a big campaign for the fourth born of 10 children sired by Rodolfo and Isabel Chavez in the province of Sonora.

"As for a rematch with Ramirez, we have to see what happens with Mayweather. Jose is a good champion, but Chavez has an agenda set out for him. Julio is definitely moving up to junior welter (140 pounds)," the New York promoter reminded. "Chavez is not only a national hero in Mexico, but he has Madison Avenue charisma — the kind they're looking for in the big, big stars in sports. Julio Cesar Chavez is now a world entity. Just call him J.C. Superstar." □

LAS VEGAS — ELONGATED RAUL PEREZ of Mexico gave a slick exhibition of punching down on target and wound up atop the mountain as the new World Boxing Council bantamweight champion in his first visit to Las Vegas.

The 21-year-old Perez shocked previously undefeated Miguel "Happy" Lora with stinging combinations to the head and body to take the 26-year-old Colombian's 118-pound crown on a going away 12-round decision at the Las Vegas Hilton prior to the Jesus Cesar Chavez and Jose Luis Ramirez bout.

After seven straight title defenses, the 5′6″ Lora literally bit off more than he could reach in facing the 5′11″ Perez, who spent most of his career developing skills in his native Tijuana, sans three bouts in Southern California and Colorado.

Perez, who turned pro in 1984, improved his credentials to 42-1-1, 28 KOs while Lora lost for the first time after 30 straight victories, 14 by knockout, reaching back to 1979 in Monteria, Colombia.

Lora's lunging, hit-and-run tactics confused the challenger through five rounds, but the boxer they call "Jibaro" ("Mountain Man" in Spanish) began using his 70-inch reach effectively in the sixth round, popping Lora with an accurate jab before moving in with solid combinations to the head and body.

There were no knockdowns, but the new champion wobbled Lora, 118, twice in the eighth round with three booming rights to the head and lefts to the body.

Official judges didn't give Lora a round after the sixth. The final ballots included Rudy Ortega scoring 117-111, while Dave Moretti saw it 116-112. Miguel Donate Jr. had it ridiculously close at 115-113. *The Ring*'s tab was 118-112.

Lora, disheartened, ducked the media quiz after the bout, but Perez was humbly appreciative of the attention.

"I did have some problems punching down at Lora, but after the fifth round I knew I was coming on. I never thought about a knockout because my plan was to box him and win the fight," Perez explained. "Lora fought a smart fight, but I felt he was very tired near the end. This was not my most difficult fight, but it was my most important because I fought a great champion."

Lora, who was Colombia's national Golden Gloves flyweight champion in 1977, won the WBC title with a 12-round decision over Daniel Zaragoza in Miami Aug. 9, 1985. The successful defenses included Wilfredo Vasquez, Enrique Sanchez, Albert Davila, all in 1986; Antonio Avelar and Ray Minus in 1987, and Lucio Lopez and Davila again this year before running into Perez. Lora earned $100,000 while Perez collected $35,000.

Danny Garcia, 121, Los Angeles, ended the unbeaten run of Renaldo "Little Red" Carter, 122, Detroit, with a TKO victory at 2:58 of the second round after the latter had suffered a badly cut left eye. Garcia moved to 11-6-1-1 while Carter dipped to 20-1, 11 KOs.

David Gonzales, 135, San Jose, Calif., improved to 21-1 with a unanimous 10-round decision over Tanaka Gonzales, 133, now 30-6.

Robert Daniels, 215, Miami, Fla., rolled to his 11th straight win with a six-round kayo over Rodney Stockton, 210, Los Angeles, the end coming at 2:37 in a scheduled 10-rounder.

Pedro Sanchez, 133, Dominican Republic, stopped Anthony Chavis, 134, Los Angeles, at 1:50 of the third round.

Mario Morales, 136, Mexico, won his eighth straight when he chilled Ricardo Rosales, 134, San Diego, Calif., at 47 seconds of the first round.

Carlos Cruz, 160, San Jose, Calif., made it 3-0 as a pro with a second-round stoppage of Benus Padila, 158, Los Angeles, Calif.

(10-29-88)

The RING RATINGS

AS OF NOVEMBER 2, 1988

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(No Weight Limit)
WORLD CHAMPION

MIKE TYSON	New Jersey
1. Evander Holyfield	Georgia
2. Carl Williams	New Jersey
3. Tim Witherspoon	Pennsylvania
4. Adilson Rodrigues	Brazil
5. Michael Dokes	Ohio
6. Donovan Ruddock	Canada
7. Tony Tucker	Michigan
8. Pinklon Thomas	Michigan
9. James Douglas	Ohio
10. Orlin Norris	California

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 175 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Charles Williams	Ohio
2. Virgil Hill	North Dakota
3. Dennis Andries	England
4. Don Lalonde	Canada
5. Tony Willis	Illinois
6. Bobby Czyz	New Jersey
7. Fulgencio Obelmejias	Venezuela
8. Lindell Holmes	Michigan
9. Graciano Rocchigiani	Germany
10. Joe Lasisi	Nigeria

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not Over 160 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

SUMBU KALAMBAY	Italy
1. Michael Nunn	California
2. Iran Barkley	New York
3. Thomas Hearns	Michigan
4. Frank Tate	Texas
5. Herol Graham	England
6. Mike McCallum	Jamaica
7. Matthew Hilton	Canada

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 147 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

LLOYD HONEYGHAN	England
1. Simon Brown	Washington, D.C.
2. Tomas Molinares	Colombia
3. Marlon Starling	Connecticut
4. Maurice Blocker	Washington, D.C.
5. Mark Breland	New York
6. Roger Mayweather	Nevada
7. Meldrick Taylor	Pennsylvania
8. Juan Martin Coggi	Argentina
9. Manning Galloway	Ohio
10. Harold Brazier	Indiana

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not Over 135 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ	Mexico
1. Greg Haugen	Washington
2. Pernell Whitaker	Virginia
3. Jose Luis Ramirez	Mexico
4. Edwin Rosario	Puerto Rico
5. Amancio Castro	Colombia
6. Azumah Nelson	Ghana
7. Tony Lopez	California

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 126 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA	Venezuela
1. Jeff Fenech	Australia
2. Jorge Paez	Mexico
3. Calvin Grove	Pennsylvania
4. Marcos Villasana	Mexico
5. Juan Jose Estrada	Mexico
6. Jeff Franklin	Nevada
7. Hector Lopez	Mexico
8. Jesus Poll	California
9. Louie Espinoza	Arizona
10. George Navarro	New Jersey

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not Over 118 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT

1. Raul Perez	Mexico
2. Kaosai Galaxy	Thailand
3. Miguel Lora	Colombia
4. Gilberto Roman	Mexico
5. Orlando Canizales	Texas
6. Sung-Kil Moon	Korea
7. Juan Carazo	Puerto Rico
8. Santos Laciar	Argentina
9. Kelvin Seabrooks	South Carolina
10. Kaokor Galaxy	Thailand

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 112 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

YONG-KANG KIM	Korea
1. Jung-Koo Chang	Korea
2. Sot Chitalada	Thailand
3. Fidel Bassa	Colombia
4. Myung-Woo Yuh	Korea
5. Hilario Zapata	Panama
6. Duke McKenzie	England
7. Dodie Penalosa	Philippines

8. **Donald Curry** ..... Texas
9. ***Julian Jackson*** ..... Virgin Islands
10. **Gianfranco Rosi** ..... Italy

1 **WEDNESDAY**
1961—Former WBC super welterweight titleholder Duane Thomas born in Detroit.

2 **THURSDAY**
1948—Former WBA welterweight titleholder Angel Espada born in Puerto Rico.

3 **FRIDAY**
1938—Emile Griffith, world champion at welterweight and middleweight, born in Virgin Islands.

4 **SATURDAY**
1952—Kid Gavilan TKO11 Gil Turner to retain world welterweight championship in Philadelphia.

5 **SUNDAY**
1957—Tarmo Uusivirta born in Finland.

6 **MONDAY**
1952—Bruce "The Mouse" Strauss born in Iowa.

7 **TUESDAY**
1962—Former WBC welterweight titleholder Milton McCrory born in Detroit.

8 **WEDNESDAY**
1888—Former world lightweight champion Ad Wolgast born in Cadillac, Michigan.

9 **THURSDAY**
1953—Former world middleweight champion Vito Antuofermo born in Italy.

10 **FRIDAY**
1959—Former WBA lightweight titleholder Sean O'Grady born in Oklahoma City.

11 **SATURDAY**
1949—Willie Pep W15 Sandy Saddler, wins world featherweight championship in *The Ring's* Fight of the Year in New York.

12 **SUNDAY**
1896—Former world bantamweight champion Pete Herman born in New Orleans.

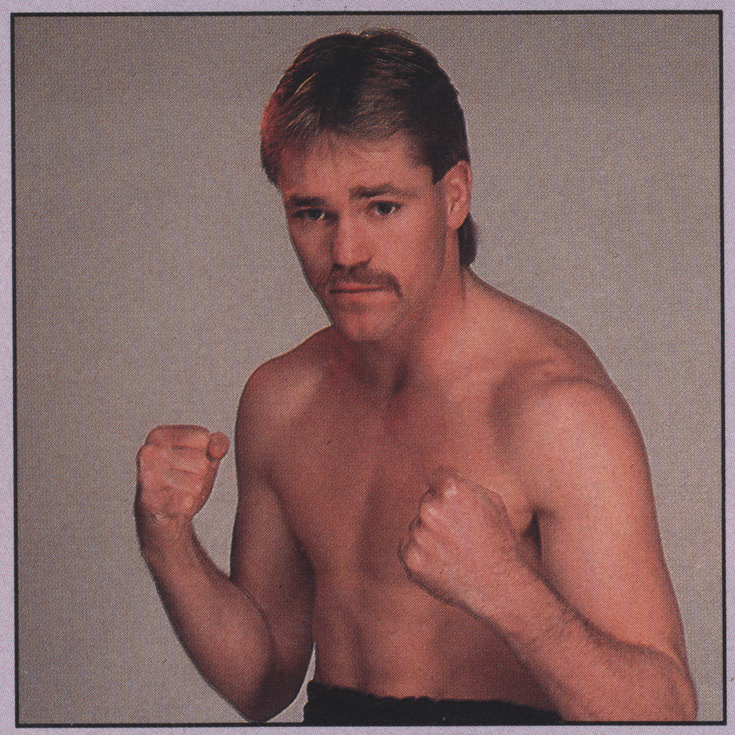
13 **MONDAY**
1964—Jorge Maysonet born in Puerto Rico.

14 **TUESDAY**
1957—Former WBC super featherweight titleholder Rolando Navarrete born in Philippines.

8. **Anthony Jones** ..... Michigan
9. **Rocky Lockridge** ..... New Jersey
10. **Brian Mitchell** ..... South Africa

The RING CALENDAR
FEBRUARY 1989

Lester Ellis



15 **WEDNESDAY**
1985—Lester Ellis W15 Hwan-Ki Yuh to win the IBF junior lightweight title in Melbourne.

16 **THURSDAY**
1963—IBF junior featherweight titleholder Jose Sanabria born in Venezuela.

17 **FRIDAY**
1960—Olian Alexander born in Kansas.

8. **Miguel Mercedes** ..... Dominican Republic
9. **Humberto Gonzales** ..... Mexico
10. **Ray Medel** ..... Texas

18 **SATURDAY**
1956—Former WBC cruiserweight titleholder Alfonzo Ratliff born in Chicago.

19 **SUNDAY**
1963—Ronnie Essett born in Louisiana.

20 **MONDAY**
1985—Sot Chitalada TKO4 Charlie Magri, retains world flyweight championship in England.

21 **TUESDAY**
1952—Former WBC super welterweight titleholder Elisha Obed born in Bahamas.

22 **WEDNESDAY**
1884—Former world featherweight champion Abe Attell born in San Francisco.

23 **THURSDAY**
1953—Former WBA flyweight titleholder Luis Ibarra born in Panama.

24 **FRIDAY**
1940—Former WBA heavyweight titleholder Jimmy Ellis born in Louisville.

25 **SATURDAY**
1946—Former New York world welterweight titleholder Hedgemon Lewis born in Alabama.

26 **SUNDAY**
1963—Martin Quiroz born in Mexico.

27 **MONDAY**
1958—Former WBA junior featherweight titleholder Leo Randolph born in Washington.

28 **TUESDAY**
1883—Former British world bantamweight titleholder George Stanley born in England.

GOODBYE TO ANOTHER TRADITION?

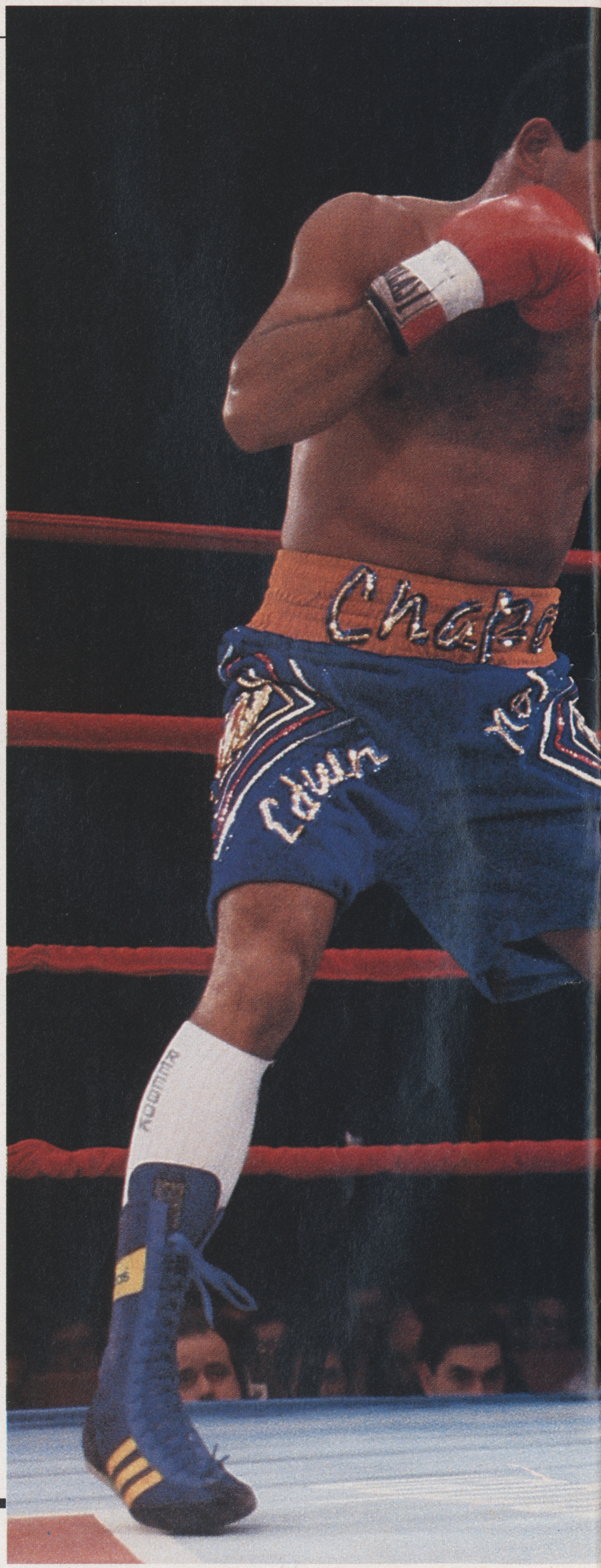
By Joseph D'O'Brian
Photos by Tom Casino

We'll never again see a professional fighter with 100 wins on his record. We'll never again see a 15-round bout. It's very likely that we'll never see an unknown kid work his way up from obscurity to the top: Probably all champions of the future will be media creations. And by golly, it may come to pass that in a few years, we will have seen our last honest-to-God club show.

Some New Yorkers claim that the Felt Forum is one of the last club venues in the United States, one of the last places — short of an out-and-out hell-hole — where you can see beginners working their way up, neighborhood heroes impressing their own little crowds and the occasional local-boy-who-made-good beating up on some poor stiff, all for not too much money, all just a subway ride away.

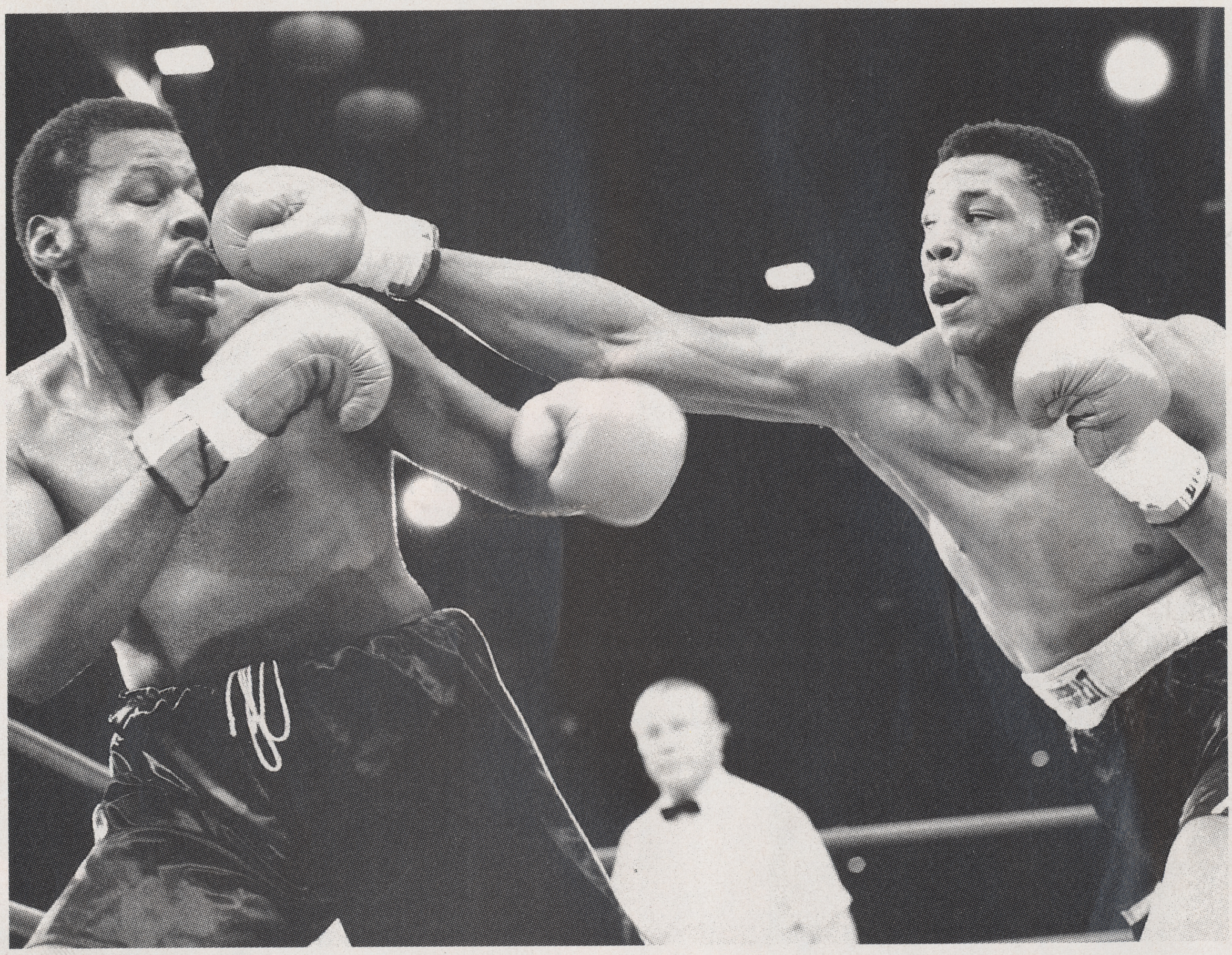
It's true that the Felt Forum is a pretty good place to see a fight. The prices are right; there are hardly any bad seats; the whole show is run fairly pleasantly and efficiently; and popular fighters seem to actually enjoy fighting there. An evening spent at the Felt Forum is almost never an evening wasted.

But if the Fabulous Felt is one of the last of the important clubs, there are none left at all. The Felt is no longer a fight club, or even a sports arena. It's a TV studio. And that, I fear, is what we're coming to today.



Former WBA lightweight champ Edwin Rosario (left) continued his diet of stiffs with a kayo over Juan Minaya at the Felt Forum.


EVERLAST
EVERLAST



Undefeated heavyweight Alex Stewart (right) reaches for Lorenzo Canady, who became knockout victim No. 17 on a recent Felt Forum card.

Time was, the live audience was important and TV just had to work around it. Today, the live bodies are merely the extras, the studio audience before which the show is taped.

There's the interminable delay before the first fight comes on, while we wait for the TV equipment to get fully operative and for the blow-by-blow announcer to do two or three takes of his introduction. There's the *two* welcoming speeches by ring announcer Ed Derian (one for us, one for the TV cameras), both of which he always accomplishes with a beautiful fluidity and a straightforwardness that reminds us that we haven't gone completely Hollywood yet. There's the delay of several minutes, once the two fighters for the first bout are in the ring, so that the TV boys can run a string of commercials before the introductions. There's the 10-minute delay between most fights so that the winner of the previous bout can be hailed before the cameras for an interview.

After about half of the scheduled 10-rounders have been fought, there's another long delay, because the TV boys are planning to turn this evening into *two* shows — showing half of the card one night, the other half the next — a cheap and clever way of keeping the TV fan interested. Then Derian does his welcoming speech all over again, at about 11 P.M., pretending that the evening is just beginning. I'm just surprised that we don't have to stand through the national anthem more than once.

Then there are the bouts themselves. It is true that matchmaker Bobby Goodman has done a good job of bringing in more quality fighters than in years previous — but the Felt still suffers from an acute lack of competitive bouts. On a good night, there may be two really tough fights; usually there's only one, and sometimes not even that. The standard format is, say, four 10-rounders featuring name fighters versus weak and sickly looking opponents, a handful of eights and sixes clearly calculated to preserve the local boys' unbeaten records, and a couple of fours which usually turn out to be pretty entertaining bouts.

There is seldom any doubt about the outcome of a bout. In fact, there is a designated "winner's corner." The fighter who's expected to win always

takes the corner nearest the interview room.

Now, I don't blame Bobby Goodman or Madison Square Garden Boxing or anyone else for all this. Within the bounds of existing necessities, they give us our money's worth and keep us entertained. But there is no doubt that they are running a TV studio, not a live boxing arena.

But we have to be realistic. On an exceptionally good night, the Felt brings in maybe 3,000 live bodies. Most nights, it's closer to 1,500. Total viewership for the MSG Network telecasts, when you consider saturation and the above-mentioned split shows, must number in the millions. And you don't sell much advertising at the fight itself: that form of revenue comes from TV.

So unless you're running a very small club, with no prospects of a TV contract, it really doesn't make sense not to make these concessions to TV.

But oh, what I wouldn't give to see one crossroads fight between two young heavyweight prospects, one between a couple of veteran middleweights each with eight or 10 losses on his record, a couple of neighborhood grudge matches, and a bunch of fights between green kids who might be good after they've taken a beating or two. If there were more clubs that offered this type of entertainment, there might be fewer TV networks trying to foist some kid with a 10-0 record off on us as a world-class boxer.

THE MOST RECENT CARD WAS ACTUALly not so bad. It was absolutely crawling with names, at any rate, and it told us quite a bit about each of those names. There was also plenty of variety: Most weight classes were represented, and we got to see everything from young phenoms to aging stars to fellows who are still strong and still major players. There were even a couple of hotly contested issues in the course of the evening.

The evening started with the New York City debut of Tracy Harris Patterson, the lightweight prospect who's the adopted son of Floyd Patterson. Floyd was working the corner, of course, and he was the same old Floyd, still with his perpetual saintly/bemused facial expression, still a big man with those who saw him go through one of the most interesting careers any fighter has ever had. A small army of Swedish journalists was in evidence in the press rows: Patterson is still a national idol in Sweden ("Just because he's such a nice guy," one of them told me), and they were anxious to send back the word on how his son made out in his first shot at the big time.

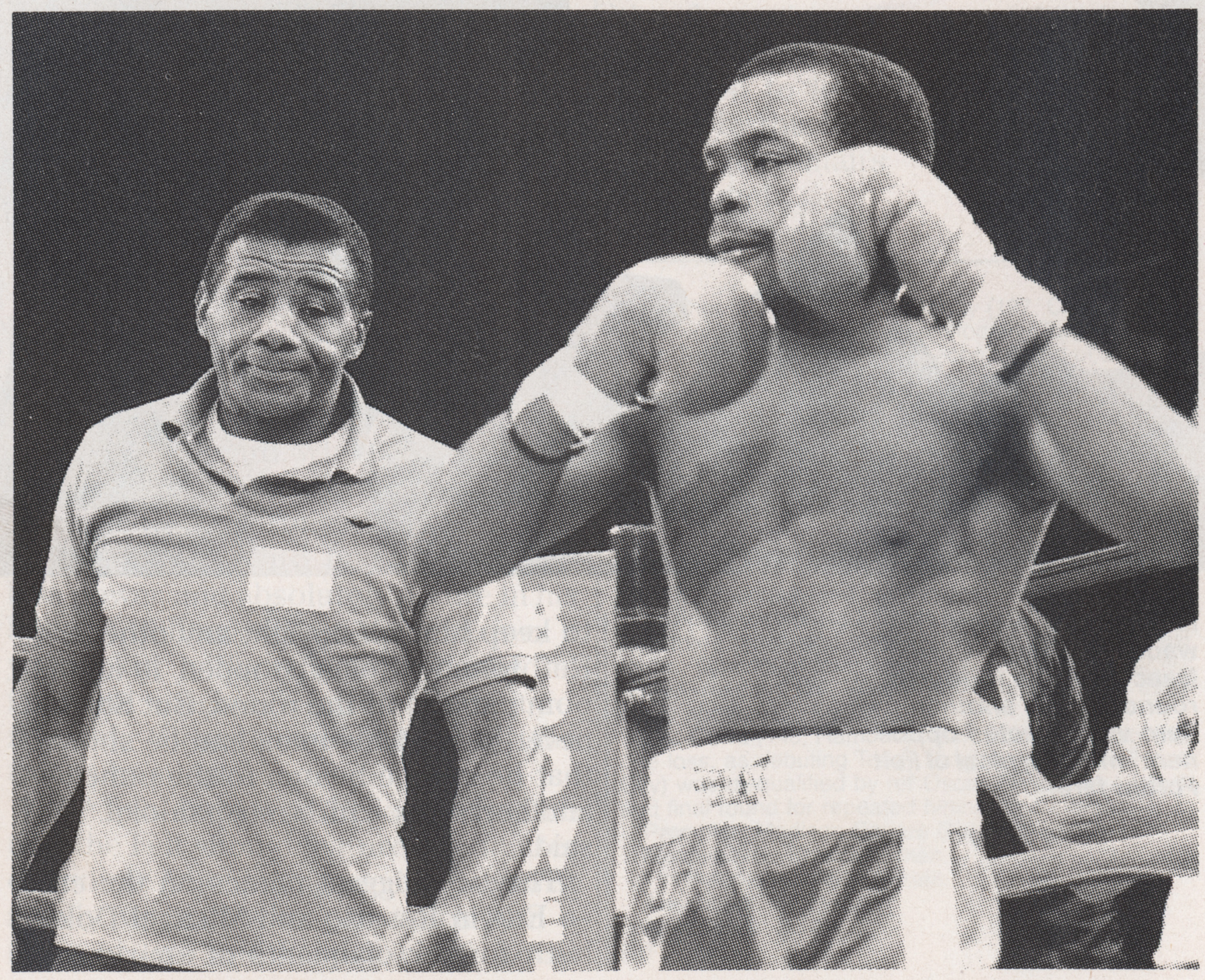
Patterson was in with Mario Gonzalez, a Chicano from McAllen, Texas whose lone effort in the past two years was a kayo loss to Wilfredo Gomez. Patterson slapped him around the ring for a round and a half before a sharp left hook to the chops sent Gonzalez down in his own corner. He waited for nine and arose, but this display of good sense apparently convinced ref Oscar Perez that he was in no condition to continue — there was no other apparent reason for the bout being stopped at 1:42 of the second, unless Perez suspected that it was going to be a long night anyway. Patterson, who now sports a 27-1, 18 kayoes record, seems to mix his punches well — and that left hook is no joke.

The Svensker journalists disappeared into the interview room after this bout and did not return.

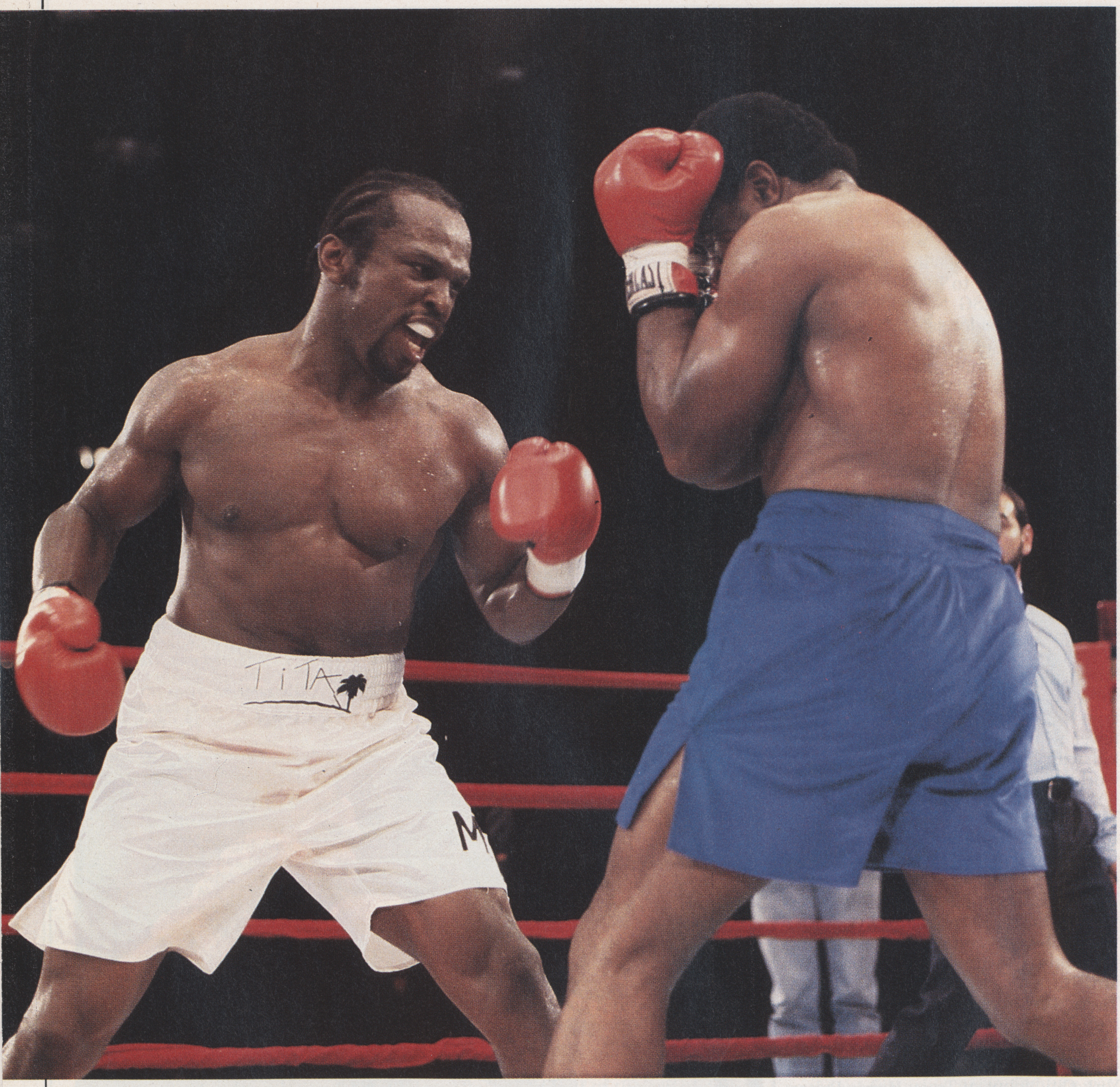
Heavyweight Alex Stewart was the next designated winner to enter the ring. He's another bright young thing, who brought in a record of 17-0, all kayoes. Supposedly, he means to break Tyson's string of 19 kayoes in 19 pro bouts — and with the opposition he's been fed, he's a cinch to do it.

Or maybe not. This evening's heavy bag, a Detroiter named Lorenzo Canady (who has the distinction of having been kayoed by Mike Tyson, way back when) actually decided it might be fun to win the fight. Damned if he didn't go out there and try to do it. We had an intimation of this in the first round: Canady lost it, but he fought back every time Stewart tagged him. In the second, he started reaching Stewart with rights. Stewart didn't seem to know how to deal with this. By the end of the round, he was getting hit hard and perhaps wondering if he were really as tough as he'd thought. A big right by Canady just before the bell caused the fans to roar with surprised pleasure.

Their enthusiasm was short-lived. That had been all Canady had brought with him. Midway through the third he was puffing, and by the fourth he was literally flopped over the ropes, unable



Former heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson sends his adopted son, Tracy Harris Patterson, out to face Mario Gonzalez, who was TKO'd in less than two rounds to raise Tracy's pro log to 27-1 with 18 KOs.



Michael Dokes (left) wades into inept Curtis Isaac en route to fourth-round TKO in another hero vs. "selected opponent" match typical of Felt Forum fare.

to keep himself upright any other way. Ref Johnny Colan stopped it at that point, at 2:14 of the round. But Stewart never decked his man, and he showed that he can be beaten to the punch — and hurt — by a fifth-rate palooka. 'Nuff said.

The two biggest names on the card — Edwin Rosario and Michael Dokes, both former claimants of spurious titles — were next, and were not much more edifying.

Rosario, who only a year ago still had a strong reputation as one of the most exciting fighters in circulation, has been feeding on stiffs all year, and he wins these fights, but he does it on automatic pilot, with no passion, no glory, and no delight to his fans.

He could be in there against other

contenders, getting ready to re-establish himself as a superstar. Instead, he wastes his talent on someone like Juan Minaya, a nervous-looking kid from Miami, who very politely permitted Rosario to whack on him for three rounds, seeming almost embarrassed at his own feeble counters. Midway through the fourth, Minaya suddenly rebelled against everything his mother had taught him, pulled a nasty face, and butted Rosario right in the eye. Rosario, apparently more disappointed than anything else, immediately shot across a perfect straight right that put Minaya on his back, completely out. Ref Arthur Mercante Jr. didn't bother to count. Minaya was out for a couple of minutes, and probably awoke wondering what had got into him anyway.

Dokes is another guy who ought to be wondering what he's doing in there against a bunch of guys who couldn't have carried Johnny Paychek's jockstrap. I think the main reason we all like seeing Dokes at the Felt is because we all enjoy his 96-year-old manager, Marty Cohen. We'd just as soon see a more exciting fight than Dokes vs. Robin Graves or whomever, but there's something heartwarming — hokey though it is — to see old Cohen shambling through the ropes, tossing roses to the crowd as though he, not Dokes, were about to go to war.

Cohen probably could have done all right against Dokes' opponent this evening: Curtis Isaac, a Michigander who is nearly as old as Cohen and who has fought six times in the past five years, losing his last three.

Isaac is a well-proportioned 180-pounder who unfortunately entered the ring at 205. Dokes, who always looks fat but isn't, pumped a jab into his face for two rounds, then went to the body. A left hook to the gut made Isaac drop like a shot steer in the third; he struggled up, but was down in the next round from the same punch in the same place. This time he didn't get up.

What's frustrating about Dokes' comeback is that he's pretty clearly ready to fight somebody, and has been for a couple of months. Why not Tim Witherspoon? Why not Tony Tucker? Why don't I stop kvetching and reconcile myself to this sorry state?

As one might have expected, the two best bouts of the evening were the last two, which went on when much of the crowd had left and the rest of us wanted to go get something stronger than beer.

Jackie Beard, once a very hot featherweight prospect and now a so-so lightweight, won a split decision over Eddie Pollard, and in his victory showed how he will never make it as far as had been expected. Pollard fought hard, flailing away like an electric fan for all 10 rounds and made us realize that that is all one has to do to make Beard look awful. If Pollard had only contrived to land a couple of those punches, he would have won. As it was, Beard could



Dokes' manager, 96-year-old Marty Cohen, prepares to throw roses to the fans prior to the start of the bout.

do little besides make Pollard miss and wait for him to get tired. This Pollard did in the final round, at which point Beard pounded on him pretty good — the only time either man landed any kind of a good punch.

It was not a good fight, but it was an interesting one. The inexperienced Pollard, who now has a 13-4 record, actually won the vote of judge Barbara Perez, while Beard, who has fought the best of them, won very narrowly on the cards of judges Tony Castellano and Nick Cimino. Beard had little timing, less power, and absolutely no fire in his belly. A fellow sitting next to me, a young kid with a fighter's bashed-in face and a fighter's swollen hands, remarked, "Beard's showing us all the things he's lost." Yep.

The final bout was the kind of match that the Felt should feature as a matter of course: A hot young prospect against a wily veteran who can teach him a thing or two and keep it close. Local middleweight Aaron Davis, undefeated in 19 fights, was just about ready to step up in class, and Horace Shufford, while not really very good, knows every trick there is.

It was a damn good fight, as one would have expected. Davis got his left eye sliced open in the first round, which provoked him to fight like a sumbitch for the next few rounds. He had no power, though, and Shufford just kept pecking away at Davis' face, puffing it up a little at a time, punch by punch. Davis was landing more frequently and controlling the action, thus was winning the fight, although nearly every round was close.

The middle rounds were the best of the fight — it was a matter of two men who just plain can't punch a lick, each trying to hurt the other. When that happens, nobody ever gets hurt, but you see a helluvan exciting little scrap. The fifth through eighth rounds were back and forth, hammer and tong. Shufford was cut badly over his right eye in the seventh, making matters even in the blood department, and started catching some nasty left hooks on his blind side. But he came on in the last two rounds, as Davis appeared to tire, and he kept things relatively close. Judges Perez and George DeGabriel had lopsided scores for Davis, while Castellano favored Shufford. Although Davis was the clear winner in my opinion, it was one of those fights that neither man deserved to lose. If I hadn't been so sleepy by this time, I might have broken the pressman's tradition and applauded. □

In other bouts: Bobby McCarthy (127, Cliffside Park, N.J.) went to 6-0, four kayoes, stopping Tony Coleman (128, Trenton, N.J.) after the second round of a scheduled six. Coleman (5-9-1, two kayoes) was down in the second.

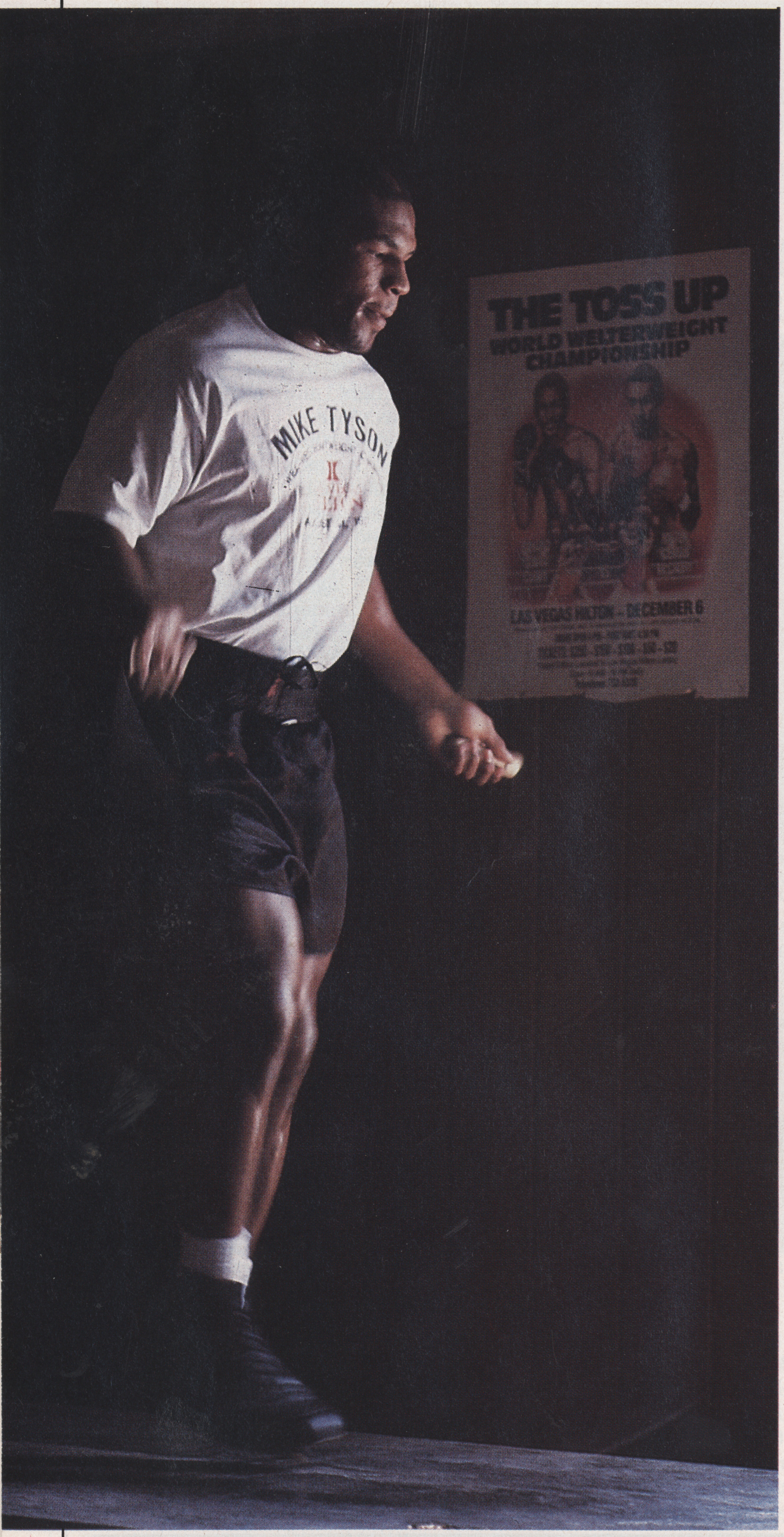
Juan Mesquita (141½, New York City) stopped Owen McGeachy (142, Brooklyn) at the end of four, scheduled six. It was a good, very close fight in which Mesquita suffered a badly cut right eye. But in the fourth, McGeachy's upper lip suddenly swelled up until it was three times its normal size. It looked like a figurehead on a man o'war, and there was no question of his continuing. Mesquita's 8-0, six kayoes; McGeachy's 7-3.

Kevin Kelley went to 2-0, two kayoes, decking Vincent Aria three times and stopping him at 2:35 of the first round, scheduled four. Aria, now 7-5, weighed 123½; Kelley weighed 126. Wayne Kelley refereed the three bouts above.

Eric Cerra (148, Hamburg, N.J.) won his first against one loss, as debuting Teddy Singleton (146, New York City) was disqualified by ref Oscar Perez in the fourth and final round for repeated hitting on the break.

Promoter: Madison Square Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker: Bob Goodman.
Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
Attendance: 2,721.

(10-27-88)



It's lonely at the top. Photographer Chris Farina captures heavyweight champion Mike Tyson in a pensive mood as he skips rope in training camp.

YOUR

WHETHER HIS PROBLEM, AT BOTTOM, is mental illness, physical illness, or simply having been married to a swamp, Mike Tyson will have more than just an opponent to deal with the next time he gets into the ring. And that's not particularly unusual. Many's the fighter who has now and then had to grit his dentures and rise above the fact that he has a cold, or a hangover, or a morbid fear of round-card-girls, or a wife who delights in ruining his digestion with a dirty look.

Still, the fact that the Champ is having some problems gets a whole lot of ink, whether his problems are terribly unusual or not. Any time a name fighter goes through something traumatic, it will generate some publicity. That's natural, I suppose. What you don't hear a lot about, though, is the occasional fighter who has to deal with a more permanent, more career-threatening handicap and comes through it in one heroic way or another.

Perhaps this is just as well. I can certainly do without any touching, dramatic TV movies about one fighter or another's battle with this or that rare disease. But it really is surprising how so few boxing fans know any of these stories. Hardly anyone knows that Pete Herman fought blind for the last couple of years of his career, or that Billy Miske fought 20-odd fights while suffering from a terminal kidney disease, or that Eugene Criqui won a world championship after having had his face shot off.

As far as I know, these handicaps didn't generate much publicity when they were happening, either. I don't understand why, but apparently such things just aren't as sexy as a temporary crisis like a divorce, a criminal charge or an acute illness. And I can sympathize with this viewpoint. I love

By Joseph D'O'Brian

WHAT'S HANDICAP?



Tami Mauriello had difficulty moving backwards because of an injury suffered in his youth. While the handicap cost him dearly when he challenged Joe Louis for the heavyweight title, Tami managed to stun the "Brown Bomber" before being kayoed in one of the most thrilling opening rounds in heavyweight history.

gossip, but hearing about someone's ailments merely depresses me.

Of course, the main reason why most of these fellows' problems weren't much noticed is that the fighters themselves didn't make a whole lot out of it. They just adjusted as best they could and got on with it.

In many cases, they couldn't make much of it. If anyone in power had heard anything about Miske's case of Bright's Disease or Herman's blindness, their careers would have been over immediately. It wasn't until the very end of Herman's career, when he lost a decision to Midget Smith, that people began to twig to the situation.

Herman had always been pretty strictly an infighter, but in that fight he wasn't throwing a single punch from the outside. And even on the inside, he was missing more than usual, and getting peppered now and then with shots he would have dodged a few years before. It couldn't be age, the fans figured, because Herman wasn't all that old. Must be his eye-sight.

Well, yes, kind of. In fact, Herman was just about stone blind at the time. He had to move forward, feeling around for his man, and wait to be hit before he could start hitting back. Even at that, there were quite a few fans who thought Herman had just barely outpointed Smith.

(After that fight, Herman retired to his native New Orleans, where he opened a nightclub which had a reputation for featuring the best strippers in town. God, can you imagine how frustrating that must have been for him?)

There have been other fighters whose career-threatening handicaps were somewhat more exotic, if less serious, than Herman's. Tami Mauriello, for instance, had suffered a rare injury in his youth that made it very difficult for him to move backwards. He coped with this to some extent by simply adopting a bruising, aggressive style that allowed him to fight going forward just about all the time. He might not have been a brawler in his heart of hearts — he may very well have wanted to be an artiste like Joey Maxim or Billy Conn — but he made the best of it.

His little handicap was brutally exposed, however, when he finally landed a shot at the heavyweight title against Joe Louis in late 1946. Louis was a prohibitive favorite, partly because he was Louis and partly because Mauriello was really just a blown-up light heavy. But Mauriello could do nothing other than wade in with both fists going, so he did, and ended up as probably the most surprised man in the arena when one of his shots connected and Louis, for an instant, was on his way to dreamland.

Some say that ref Arthur Donovan protected Louis by stepping between the two fighters, "accidentally," at the critical moment. Maybe. At all events, Louis came back with a counterattack born of sheer desperation, and if only Tami had been able to go backwards, he might have weathered it, letting Louis burn himself out. But he just

couldn't get out of his own way, much less Louis'.

That was the end of Mauriello as a serious contender. The record books say he was stopped in the first, never mentioning that it was one of the most competitive one-round kayoes in heavyweight history, and Mauriello is better remembered today as a bit player in On The Waterfront. That role apparently didn't require him to walk backwards.

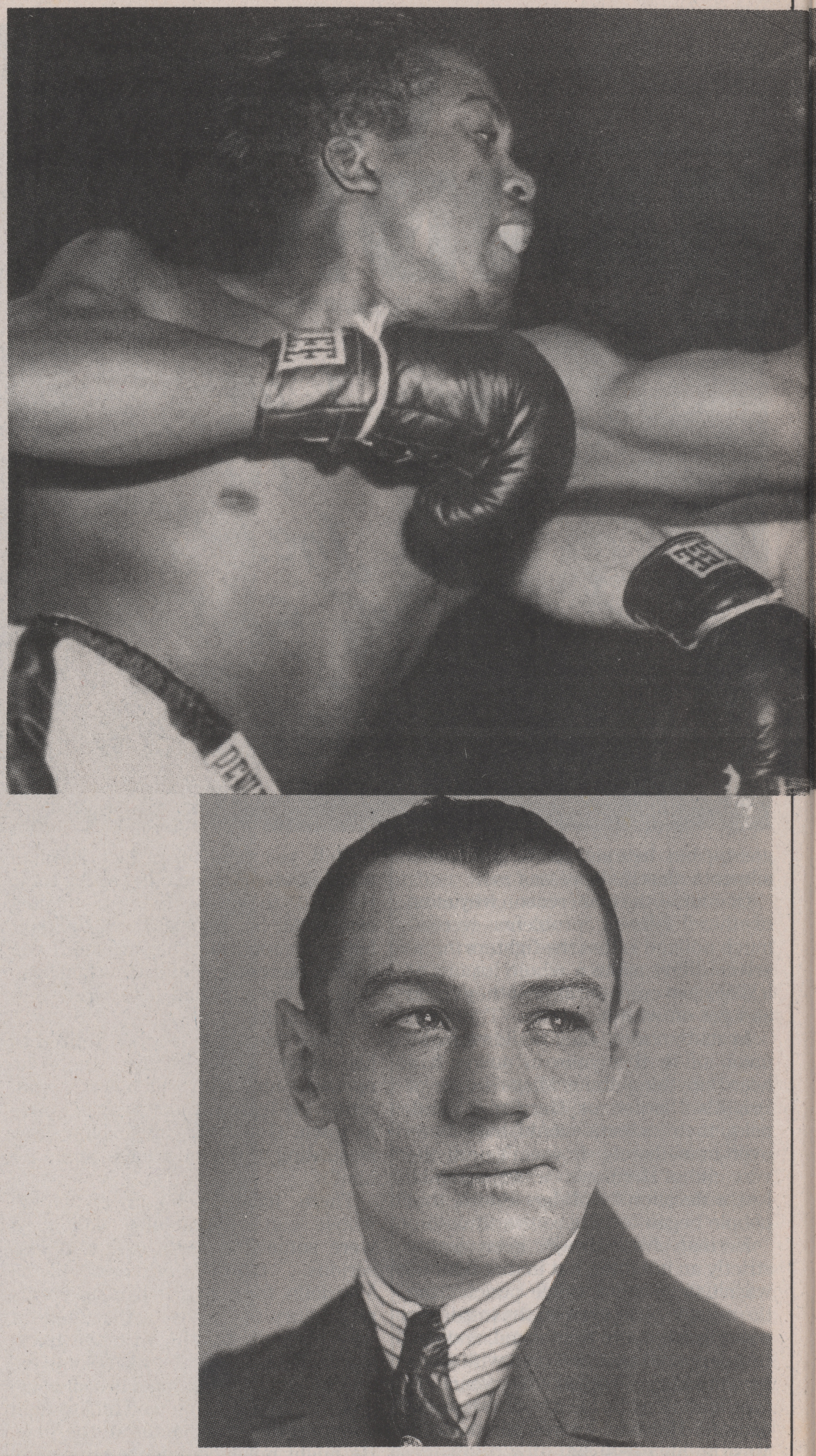
Then there were the fighters who suffered a run of bad luck and managed to convince themselves that it was the fault of a physical handicap which could be corrected — after which they would go on to become the next Muhammad Ali or whoever else. Vito Antuofermo was my favorite in this respect. Vito, you'll recall, was an incredible bleeder. Give him a little poke in the eye, and he'd unleash enough of the red stuff to gross out Sam Peckinpah. This, of course, cost him quite a few fights.

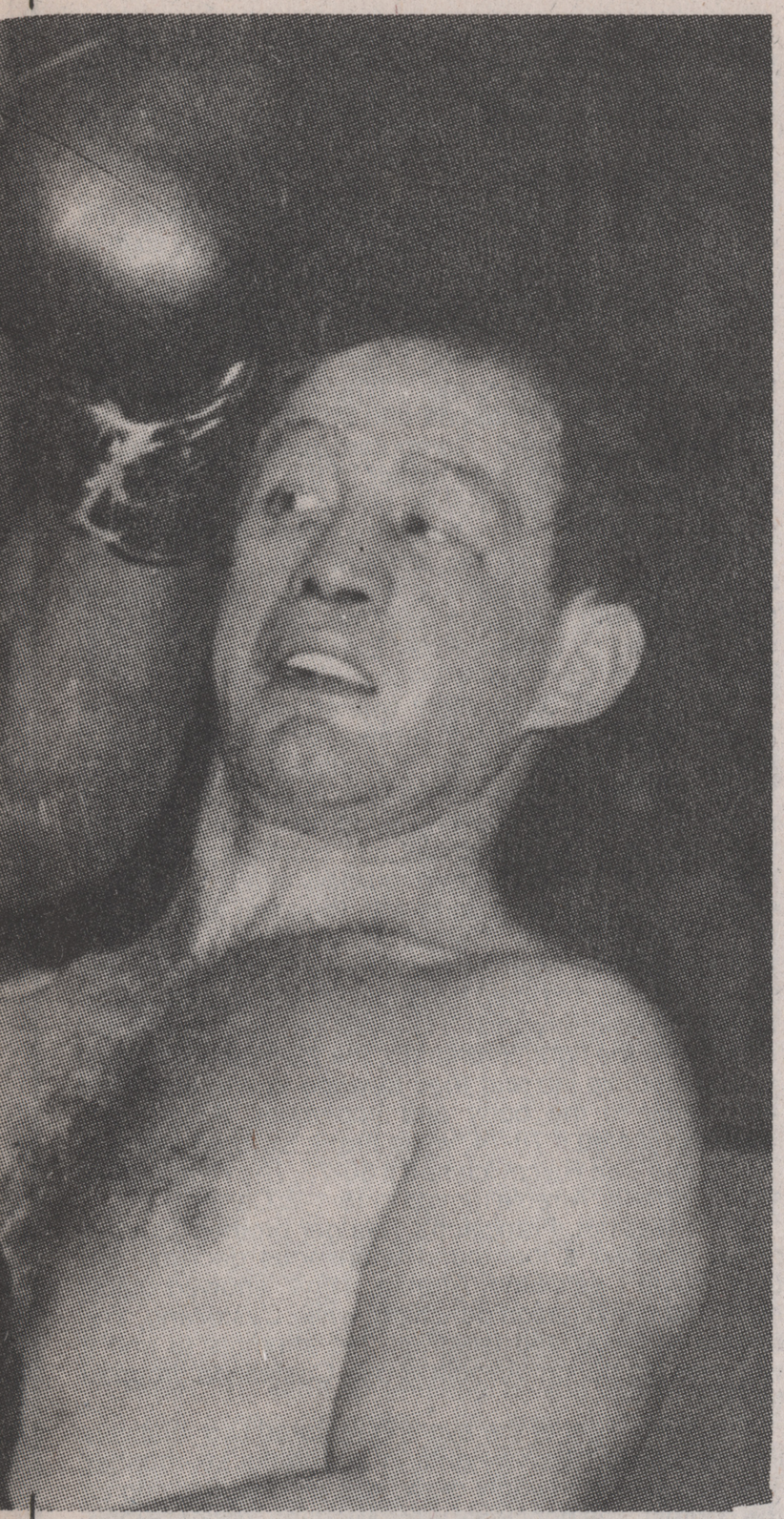
Well, some doctor or other came along, according to the story I heard, and convinced him that this was happening because *his brow ridges were too prominent!* Just let me open your face up and shave down those protruding bones, the doc said, and you won't have any more of those problems with eye cuts. So old Vito underwent the surgery and returned to the ring, apparently convinced he'd never sustain another TKO as long as he lived.

As things turned out, his eyebrows did bleed somewhat less after that operation — but only because Vito's forehead would have a way of splitting open, too, causing some fairly spectacular displays of hydrodynamics and forcing the ref to stop the fight before Vito had a chance to sustain an eye cut.

A few years earlier, something similar happened to Johnny Bratton, the old welterweight champ. Bratton could box like nobody before or since, and he could usually take a pretty good shot, too, which he needed to be able to do since he was no puncher. His big problem, though, was his jawbone, not his synapses. You couldn't knock him out too easily, but busting his jaw was as easy as popping those little plastic bubbles that you find inside mail-order packages these days.

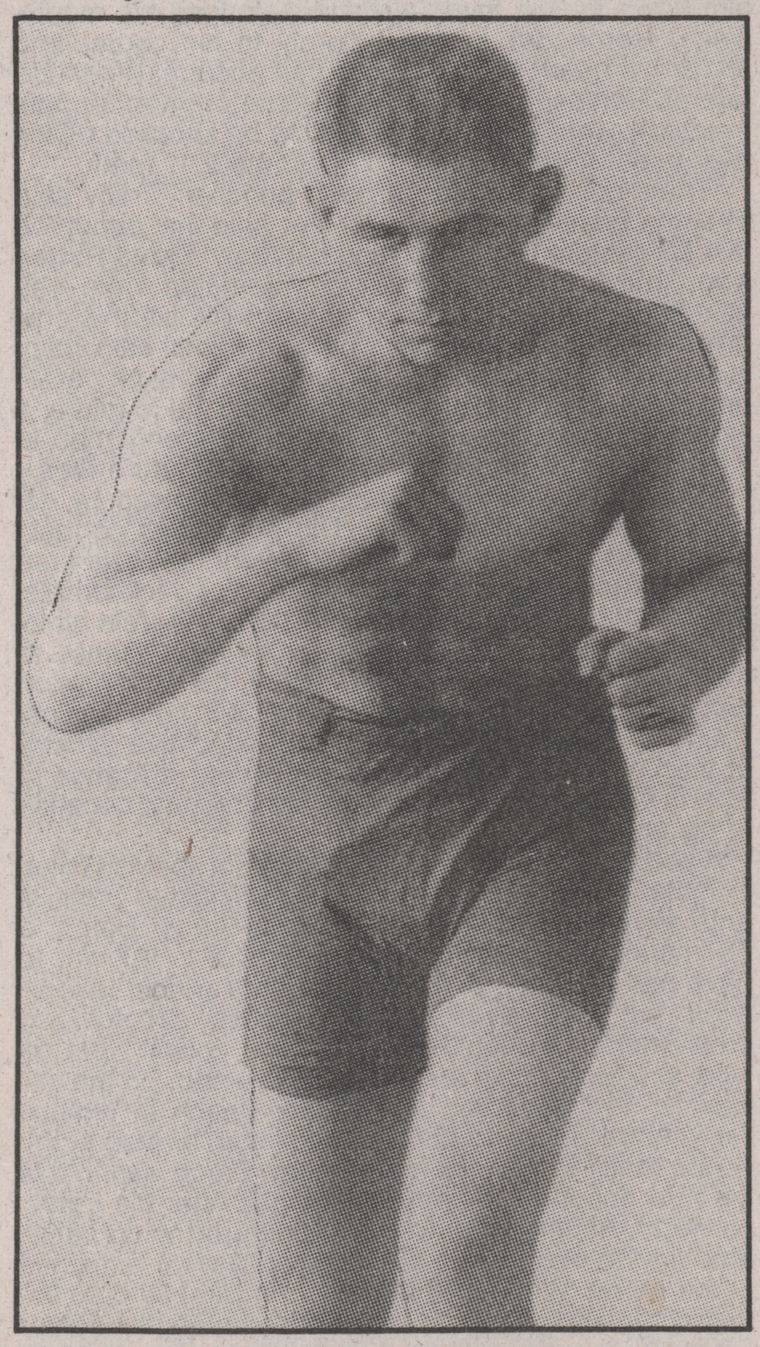
As I understand it, a doctor convinced Bratton that it was a dental problem, and that the removal of certain infected teeth would take care of





Gene "Silent" Hairston (left) on his way to a sixth-round TKO over Al "Red" Preist in their 1952 bout at St. Nicholas Arena in New York City. Hairston was deaf, but never let his handicap affect his boxing career.

Frenchman Eugene Crique had part of his face blown away during World War I, but returned to the ring with a metal jaw and won the featherweight title.



Billy Miske fought 20-odd fights while suffering from a terminal kidney disease.

the weakness in his jawbone. Two or three TKOs later, Bratton was disabused of the notion.

On the other hand, there have been some fighters whose handicaps might well have been counted as advantages, as far as their boxing careers were concerned. Take Gene Hairston, for instance. One would think that his deafness would have had to have been a handicap, somehow, but when you stop to think about it, you realize that it was at least a built-in excuse for clobbering his opponent after the bell, if he felt like it. I imagine it could also mean that he was able to ignore the more fatuous advice of his cornermen. ("You didn't sign it properly," he could insist.)

Then there was Criqui, the French bantamweight from the 1910s and 20s, who had a good percentage of his face shot off in World War I and returned to the ring with a bionic jaw. I suppose a lot of people must have wondered, wasn't he worried about taking a couple of good licks on that injured jaw and having the whole thing come apart, so that he'd be standing in the middle of the ring, looking, well, somewhat unhinged?

Worried about it he may have been, but it never happened. In fact, he won the world featherweight championship some years after his face had been reconstructed. I suppose it's possible that the renovation actually helped his resistance to a punch.

At any rate, he couldn't have been much worried about preserving his looks once he'd sustained that war wound, so perhaps this allowed him to fight in a less inhibited style.

(Actually, if you've ever seen a picture of Criqui, you'll probably agree that he belongs on the All-Time All-Ugly list, wound or no wound. The man had ears like Dumbo.)

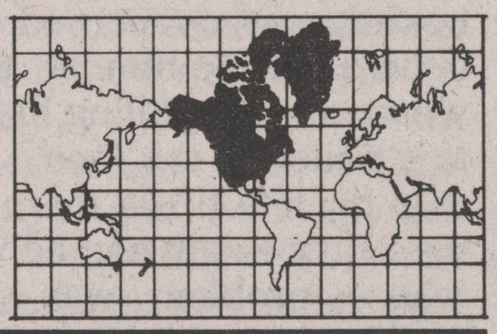
Leon Spinks had a similar problem — or asset — having no teeth and a face that looked like a three-ring circus. Nobody took him seriously once they'd seen him smile. But as far as boxing was concerned, it must have been a help to him not to have had to worry about spoiling his looks by getting nailed in the face.

In the late 1910s, there was a California heavyweight named Willie Meehan, whose problem was a little ways further down his body: He was simply a fat slob. This was certainly to his disadvantage in that he wasn't exactly Mr. Stamina, but he was surprisingly agile for his weight, and besides, every opponent was so fascinated by that huge gut that they just had to hit it. And of course, if you hit a guy like that in the belly, he'll never feel a thing. Consequently, Willie Meehan earned a reputation as the best four-round fighter in the United States. Over that short distance, he could beat anybody — even Jack Dempsey, against whom he had a lifetime record of 3-1-2.

So, what's the point of all this? In my opinion, the point is that these examples show how important is the psychological aspect of boxing. It seems that a fighter can overcome just about any kind of physical problem, to one extent or another. But if he goes into the ring with a lot of crap on his mind, God help him.

That's why if Tyson breaks his hand, it creates barely a ripple — it just means that his next fight gets postponed for a couple of months. We all figure Mike could lick any three heavyweights on the same night using just one hand anyway. God only knows, though, how the psychological demons will affect him. And I suspect that many fighters would gladly take Eugene Criqui's jaw, or Tami Mauriello's feet, or Willie Meehan's gut or Vito Antuofermo's eyebrows, sooner than they'd take Robin Givens. □

The RING AROUND THE WORLD



NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CONNECTICUT

▶**HARTFORD**—Civic Center Assembly Hall—It was billed as an Irish Knights Boxing show, and thus it seemed appropriate that Gentleman Jim Scully, Sean Malone, John Fortin and Pat Ireland were among the winners on such a night. Also, they, like all eight victors on the card, sat in the Green Corner of the ring.

Troy (Schoolboy) Wortham, 165, of Hartford, launched a comeback after being out over two-and-a-half years by outpointing Mike Caminetti, 161, of Albany, N.Y., in the six-round feature. Troy's nickname refers to the fact he boxed as a means of working his way through the University of Hartford. He suspended his ring career to earn a degree there and today has a position with a future at Aetna Life & Casualty Insurance Co. headquarters here. He had assembled a 26-0 record as a welterweight before running afoul of Mark Breland prior to his comeback. Wortham was sharp and impressive after the long layoff.

It was John Scully's heralded pro debut that attracted a record crowd and gate in the expanded 1,500-seat Assembly Hall — 2,300 contributing to a gate of $26,000. Some expressed disappointment that Scully, 163, of nearby Windsor stopped a reluctant foe, Paulino Falcon, 161½, of Springfield, Mass., in 1:16 of the first round. They had expected to see the fight last longer.

Scully won a bronze medal in the Olympic Trials this year, four regional Golden Gloves titles, and was twice a finalist in the National Golden Gloves.

Ray Bright, 142½, of New Haven, earned an extra $150 in outpointing Wade Davis, 149½, of Hartford, in a four-rounder voted the best fight of the night. Davis got an extra $100.

Don Smith, 181, Hartford, outpointed Juan Quintana, 215, Springfield, Mass., in six.

Sean Malone, 137½, Wallingford, stopped Jose Soto, Springfield, in 1:42 of the first. Malone is now 4-0.

John Fortin, 141, Springfield, outscored Jake Riley, 139½, Albany, N.Y., in four.

Pat Ireland, 141, Springfield, halted Santiago Corriano, 135, Springfield, at 1:15 of the first round.

Angel Gonzales, 119, Hartford, stopped Carlos Avilez, 113, Springfield, at 59 seconds of the first.

Officials: Matt Mullaney, Sam Maltempo, John Lawson & Bob Muravnick.

Timekeeper: Lou Dell.
Physicians: Steven M. Stein & James O'Brien.
Announcer: Brad Davis.
Promoter: Chris Buckley.
Attendance: 2,300. Gross: $26,000.
(9-16-88)

JOSEPH CASSANO

FLORIDA

▶**ORLANDO**—JJ Whispers—**Tracy Harris Patterson** barely broke a sweat in dropping 30-year-old Tony Hernandez four times in the first round en route to his 26th win against one loss. Patterson, 128½, was the headliner of an interesting five-bout card staged at this dance club. Hernandez, 133½, of Miami, entered the ring with a 19-9 slate and a reputation as a tough fighter who throws punches in bunches. He didn't live up to his press. Patterson floored Hernandez first with a right hand, followed by two lefts to the head as Hernandez was trying to land a right of his own. Seconds later, Patterson landed a starching right that sent Hernandez to his knees again. After yet another right hand sent him down for the third time and dislodged his mouthpiece, Hernandez looked forlornly to his corner and shook his head, indicating he'd had enough. When the referee signaled the fighters to resume, Hernandez halfheartedly went at Patterson, only to be knocked off his feet again. It was scored a TKO at the 2:11 mark.

"They told me he was a good puncher," Tracy said after the brief workout. "But they've said that about the last six fighters I've faced (and beaten)." **Floyd Patterson**, Tracy's father and manager, admitted there was little to be learned from this fight. "A fight like this only gives him more confidence," he said. Floyd said Tracy is slated to meet an as yet unnamed, but "much better" opponent later this next year. Should he capture a crown, a rematch with **Jeff Franklin**, the only man to beat him, would be high on Tracy's list of future foes.

The night's card was almost overshadowed by developments outside the ring. The advertised co-main event was to have featured 39-year-old warhorse **Jimmy Young** against Dorcy Gaymon of Jacksonville. But during the week preceding the fight, the state athletic commission voted 5-0 to deny Young a license to meet Gaymon. After Young protested, the commission held a second vote, resulting in a 3-2 vote against Young. According to Don Hazelton, executive director of the commission, Young will be denied a license to fight in Florida "because he's lost his skills and because of his age."

A second advertised heavyweight bout likewise failed to materialize, although two of the suggested participants were ostensibly ready to fight. Sonny Barch, a 267-pound slugger with a record of 23-2-1 (18), was to have met Art Terry, of Fort Myers, in a winner-take-all affair. But Terry never showed because, according to co-promoter Carmen Rodrigues, "he couldn't get off work in time to make the plane" to Orlando. So the call went to Tim Anderson of Daytona Beach to replace Terry. Anderson, who had been training, arrived at the venue ready to fight. However, when Barch was told of the new opponent, he refused to fight. After the Patterson fight, Anderson, gloved and prepared to do battle, entered the ring to air his grievance to what remained of the crowd. When an inebriated fan climbed onto the ring apron and offered to take Anderson on, the fighter ran across the ring and threw several punches at him. Order was quickly restored, and the two reportedly reconciled their differences the next day.

All these problems notwithstanding, there were other fights that went off as planned, and they made for an entertaining evening.

In a clash of bantamweights, **Luigi Camputaro**, 119, chopped down Martine Villasana, 121¾, in the sixth of a scheduled eight-rounder. Camputaro, 24, is a native of Italy who has been training at the Challenger Gym in Tampa for about six weeks. He is reportedly the No. 1 contender in Europe and holds the Italian flyweight belt. Early in the first round, Camputaro showed some power as he sent Villasana into the ropes with a hard left hook to the head. Camputaro pressed the action throughout, landing solid hooks to the head and body. Villasana showed good skills, but he couldn't hurt Camputaro, and it seemed to be only a matter of time before the Italian closed out his account. Early in the sixth, Camputaro sent Villasana to the canvas with a double left to the head. Villasana beat the count, but the bout was stopped by referee Peter Bartlett at the :59 mark. Camputaro is 23-1, while Villasana fell to 9-5.

The best fight of the night was an eight-rounder between Francisco "El Tigre" Arreola, of Tampa by way of Illinois, and Antonio Carter, of Bougalusa, LA. Arreola, the Illinois featherweight champion, carved out a unanimous decision win, showing good hand speed, defensive and offensive quickness and combination punching. Arreola, 126¾, started quickly, evading most of Carter's shots while scoring with thudding lefts to Carter's head and body. Carter, 132¾, jabbed very little throughout, and what he did throw was ineffective. He seemed content to keep his guard up and wait for opportunities to counterpunch. He didn't get hurt, but he did little to win the fight. Eventually, the 22-year-old Arreola abandoned his jab and tried to wade in and land hard left hooks to the body and uppercuts. Judge Tony Palermo scored it 78-74, while Frank Skilbred saw it at 79-73 and Dan Raicevich had it 80-73. *The Ring* carded 80-72, Arreola. Arreola moved to 15-1-2; Carter, 9-6-1.

In the walkout, Francisco's younger brother, Tony Arreola, notched a four-round unanimous decision win over Jaime Castellano. Arreola, 119½, showed quickness and combination punching, while Castellano, 119, tended to lunge and telegraph his attempts to end it with one big punch. Arreola is 6-2. Castellano dropped to 1-7.

The worst fight of the evening featured two relatively inexperienced heavyweights in a dreadful six-rounder. The decision, a majority draw, was as unappetizing as the contest. The principals were Miamian Vincent White, making his pro debut, and Mitchell Homsey, of Las Vegas, who came in 2-2. In addition, Homsey was a last-minute replacement whose plane from Nevada landed in Orlando at about 6:40 p.m., less than an hour prior to the start of the card. White's fight plan was simple: bull Homsey into the ropes, lean on him with the full force of his 223½ pounds, and bang to the body. Homsey threw a few effective punches, but was unable to keep White off of him. Referee Peter Bartlett allowed White to turn this one into a mauling parody of sumo wrestling. There were glimpses of boxing skills here, but if you blinked, you likely missed them.

Promoter: Rick Parker/Challenger Promotions.
Referees: Frank Santore & Peter Bartlett.
Judges: Frank Skilbred, Harding McCain, Dan Raicevich & Tony Palermo.
Timekeeper: Dick Howroyd.
Physicians: Beers & Means.
Attendance: 500 (est.).
(10-5-88)

▶**DAYTONA BEACH**—The main event of this seven-bout card featured Daryl Fromm pounding out a convincing unanimous decision win over John LaRue over 10 rounds. The 27-year-old Fromm, 166, upped his record to 13-4 at the expense of his 31-year-old foe.

Heavyweight Cecil Sams, 191, improved to 2-0 with a knockout of Albert Dunn, 193, at 1:19 of the first, scheduled for four rounds. Dunn, in only his third pro bout at the age of 28, remained winless.

Two other fighters kept their respective slates unblemished as Lorenzo Bouie, 157¼, registered a technical knockout of Anthony Scamardo, 151¼, in the first of a scheduled four-rounder. Bouie is 2-0; Scamardo, who sustained a separated shoulder in the abbreviated affair, skidded to 0-3.

Twenty-one-year-old Chuck Edwards, 164, made a successful professional debut with a four-round unanimous decision win over Alberto Rodriguez. Rodriguez, 161¼, dropped to 0-3.

Rafael Rodriguez, 141¾, scored a first-round technical knockout over a debuting David Bostic, 136. Bostic did not answer the bell for Round Two.

In a showdown of heavyweights making their pro debuts, Thomas Sandner, 216¼, knocked down Richard Coulter, 195, three times en route to a knockout win at 2:42 of the first round.

Tommy Richardson, 174, moved to 9-1 with a fourth-round TKO over Philip Lewis, who failed to answer the bell for the fifth. Lewis, 174¼, is 6-6-2.

Promoter: Vallie Fromm.

Referees: Max Parker Jr. & Frank Santore.

Judges: Frank Skilbred, Tony Palermo, Dan Raicevich & Harding McCain.

Timekeeper: Mark Skilbred.

Physicians: Jerald Woodard & Khorsandian.

(9-15-88)

▶**WINTER HAVEN**—The Orange Dome—Former world featherweight champion **Stevie Cruz** used a videotape and a wicked overhand right to knock out local favorite Amos "Sweet Pea" Cowart at 1:31 of the first of a scheduled 10-rounder, keeping alive Cruz' bid to regain the title he lost in March 1987 to **Antonio Esparragoza**. He hopes to secure a title shot against IBF king Jorge Paez, who took his crown from Calvin Grove in August. Cruz, 31-3 (17), said he watched a tape of one of Cowart's prior fights and noticed that he sometimes dropped his left hand after throwing a jab, making him vulnerable to an overhand right. "I thought it would be awhile before I had the chance to land it," Cruz said, "but then he did it, and I threw the right."

Cowart came right at Cruz, but was put on the defensive by several right-left combinations. Cruz, 126½, stung his man early with a left hook before unleashing the right that sent Cowart, 128, sagging into the ropes and onto the canvas. Cowart regained his feet by the count of nine, but referee Brian Garry stopped it before an obviously dazed Cowart could absorb more punishment.

Experience was the key to the outcome, according to Dave Gorman, Cruz' manager. "It was probably a little early for this kid (Cowart was 16-2 going in) to be in this type of fight," he said. "Stevie's experience was way superior." The 24-year-old Cruz, who suffered a first-round knockout at about the same stage of his career, had praise and advice for Cowart. "He had a lot of courage," he said. "He came in and wasn't afraid. I told him to just hang in there. I got knocked out, but then came back to become world champion."

Cowart, 21, seemed unfazed by the quick ending. "I'm still gonna be there," he said. Manager Jack Leonard said Cowart had not done any roadwork for this fight because of an ankle injury, but added that that was no excuse for his fighter's performance. "We knew about the problem (with the jab), we worked on it, and I didn't think he'd make that mistake early on," Leonard said. "But then he did while he was coming in, and Cruz threw the right." Was Cowart in over his head? "Yes, and I take all the blame for that," Leonard said. "But from listening to Eddie Futch (trainer of Jeff Franklin, who decisioned Cruz), and seeing films of Cruz, I thought Amos could beat him. But remember that Amos has been fighting for three years, while Cruz has been fighting since he was 12."

Things went better for another Winter Haven fighter in the co-main event as Delfino "Chicano" Marin captured the mythical state welterweight championship with a rugged unanimous decision win over tough Floyd Wells over 12 rounds. In Florida, the state athletic commission will allow quality fighters to contest a so-called state title, but it will not sanction the bout as such to avoid getting involved in a ratings game. Nonetheless, the title means much to the fighters involved, and the winner on this night received a diamond-studded gold belt.

Marin, 11-0 going in, was to have faced "Mad Dog" Martinez, but Wells was called in after Martinez reportedly was cut during a sparring session earlier in the week. Wells had decisioned a previously unbeaten Johnny Lockett in July and had beaten Dexter Smith, a former state welter titlist. For Marin, 146½, it was a typical performance, as he was the aggressor throughout, constantly moving forward and throwing punches, especially hooks with both hands. "They told me he was crazy, but I didn't pay any attention because all fighters are crazy," said manager Leonard. "I didn't know what they meant until he got in the ring." In the ring, Wells boxed some, walked a marathon, talked to Marin all night and acted scared and hurt, even falling to the canvas in mock pain at the end of Round Seven. Wells, 147, made no friends in or out of the ring on this night. Marin was undeterred by it all except for an incident in the third round after he'd landed a shot to Wells' beltline. Wells took exception to it, and retaliated with two very low blows that crumpled the 21-year-old Marin. Referee Mike Boggs deducted a point from Wells for his actions.

The scoring reflected the effectiveness of Marin's workmanlike effort. Judge Derrell Brown saw the fight at 119-109, while Tom Brown had it 119-110 and Wilson Robinson, 118-110. *The Ring* agreed with Tom Brown. Marin is 12-0; Wells is 8-6-3.

Vince "The Hammer" Hogan, 163½, kept his undefeated record intact with a third-round technical knockout of debuting Larry Carlisle, 161. It was an action bout with both fighters landing heavy leather. But the win was anything but impressive as Hogan, of Winter Haven, missed many opportunities to end it even earlier and needlessly absorbed some thunderous shots to the head. Hogan was the aggressor and dropped Carlisle in the second with a good combination. But as soon as Carlisle got up, he landed two screaming rights on Hogan's head. In the third round, Hogan finally threw, and landed, two uppercuts—the opening had been there all night—and followed with a right hand to the head that toppled Carlisle for a TKO at the 2:42 mark. Hogan is now 5-0-1.

Middleweight Tony Bonds survived a first-round cut caused by the head-first rushes of debuting Frankie Glen to post a TKO at 1:47 of the third round. Glen, 155, butted Bonds, opening a cut on Bonds' left cheekbone early in the fight, but Bonds stayed with his game plan, putting to good use a stiff jab and strong right hand. A six-punch combination early in the third by Bonds set Glen back on his heels. Glen resorted to holding tactics, for which he was penalized a point. Bonds, 156½, continued to land, and finally put Glen down. The bout was stopped when Glen quit fighting. Bonds is 2-0.

In the walkout, Tommy Guenot, 132, of Deltona, took a four-round unanimous decision over a reluctant Jose Vilarino, 132¼, of Miami. Guenot pressed the action and displayed good quickness and combination punching. Vilarino, who sustained a cut over his left eye in the third, spent most of his time on the defensive. Both were making their professional debuts.

Promoter: Team Time Promotions.

Referees: Mike Boggs & Brian Garry.

Judges: Wilson Robinson, Tom Brown & Derrell Brown.

Timekeeper: Billy Herold.

Physicians: Peter Petrone & Mike Carry.

Attendance: 1,400 (est.).

(9-30-88)

KEN KNOX

GEORGIA

▶**ATLANTA**—Libra Ballroom — Atlanta's Jerry Smith, 150, knocked out James Nash, 148, Spartanburg, South Carolina at 2:35 of the first round.

Darren McGrea, 132, Mobile, Alabama, won an eight-round decision over Roderick Thompson, 137, Spartanburg.

LeAnthony Smith, 182, Mobile, scored a four-round TKO over Macon's Charlie Bishop, 183.

Atlanta's Eddie Evans, 164, spoiled the pro bow of Charlie Zachary, 160, Atlanta, by winning a four-round decision.

Promoter: Geno Jordon.

Referees: Jim Korbb & Al Pruitt.

Judges: Jerry Michaels, Irwin Deutsch & Paul Murphy.

Timekeeper: Barry Richardson.

Physician: Jack Birge.

(10-4-88)

ILLINOIS

▶**CHICAGO**—Park West—Ten Count Promotions (in conjunction with Cedric Kushner Promotions) made its promotional debut with this six-bout card at the Armitage Avenue nightspot.

Headlining the action was a scheduled six-round rubber match between streaking J.C. Camell Jr., Chicago, and comebacking "Jazzy" Jeff McWhorter, Racine, Wi.

Camell won their first meeting in 1985, but McWhorter came back in '86 to stop Camell in the second round. Camell, 147, rolled in with a three-fight win streak under his trunks and McWhorter was returning to action after more than a year off.

In spirited action throughout, Camell proved to be the stronger fighter, landing left hooks to the body and neutralizing McWhorter's offensive intentions. McWhorter never backed down, but Camell was the sharper puncher and turned in one of his best performances in capturing a unanimous decision. Camell upped his record to 7-4, while McWhorter dropped to 9-5-1.

Victor Mobley, 137, Chicago, tagged Herminio Morales, 140, Chicago, with his fifth loss in a row when he leveled the Mexican with a left hook to the kidney and won by TKO at 2:21 of the fourth round.

Now 10-0, Mobley is one of Chicago's most promising prospects. He has good hand speed and decent punching power, but needs to stay active to continue his rise in the lightweight ranks.

In his most impressive outing as a pro, Curtis Strong, 132, Chicago, hammered out a unanimous decision over trialhorse deluxe Benny Marquez, 135, Chicago. Strong raised his record to 8-1-1 and knocked Marquez down in the final round of a scheduled six.

Tony LaRosa, 1988 Chicago Golden Gloves champion, 178, Chicago, debuted impressively by stopping Warsaw, Indiana's Ray Fenix, 181, at 1:21 of Round Two. LaRosa looked strong and poised and hammered Fenix with a right uppercut to end the scheduled four-rounder.

In the most competitive fight on the card, Nate Rush, 136, Chicago, and Gary, Indiana's Gerald Shelton battled to a four-round draw. It was an action encounter throughout with Rush winning the early rounds and Shelton coming on late. Judge Jerry Jakubco carded 18-18, while Bill Lerch favored Rush by a point and Tim Adams saw Shelton a one-point winner.

Good fighters make adjustments and that's exactly what Ben Baez, 133, Chicago, did in a return bout with Joe Kirkland, 134, Chicago. Baez won a narrow decision over Kirkland in his pro debut, but this time it was no contest as he took the fight right to his opponent, knocking Kirkland down in Round Two and taking him out with a short right hand in the third round of a scheduled four.

Baez has excellent hand speed, and with his third win in as many fights, he seems to be making the power adjustment to the pro game.

Matchmaker: Jack Cowen.

Referees: Stan Berg & Brian O'Shea.

Judges: Mike Glienna, Adams, Jakubco & Lerch.

Timekeeper: Al Tremari.

Announcer: Bill Baker.

Attendance: 352.

(9-6-88)

▶**CHICAGO**—DiVinci Manor—Illinois state welterweight champion Jake Carollo followed up his resounding knockout of Kevin Mulvey with a convincing 10-round decision over journeyman Eduardo Valdez, 140, Miami.

Carollo, 142, Franklin Park, stepped in on only a few days' notice when stablemate **Louie Lomeli** injured his right hand and although he tired late in the bout, Carollo had things wrapped up.

As usual, Carollo opened by pressing the action. Valdez, a good counterpuncher, allowed Carollo to dictate the tempo which resulted in the Colombian native spending a lot of time with his back to the ropes. Carollo suffered a cut over his left eye in the second round, but cut man Primo LaCassa handled things capably and Valdez seemed to forget about the wound.

The middle rounds were punctuated by some spirited exchanges with Carollo grabbing the upper hand by his sheer volume of punches. Over the last three rounds, a fading Carollo was caught more and more with counterpunches, but he managed to hang on. Carollo is 10-1 and a rising star on the Chicago scene.

I don't think anyone ever questioned J.C. Camell Jr.'s heart, but he was asked to display it big time in his bout with the veteran Al "UFO" Hamza, 145, Chicago. Camell had won four fights in a row and seemed to be regaining his confidence, but he remained a decent six-round fighter without a knockout punch.

The UFO is a hard puncher with a great chin, who has unfortunately bottomed out in his big fights. Still, his experience and ability far exceeded Camell's and it took him less than three minutes to prove it. Camell was knocked down in the first round and was never really in the fight. After a number of additional knockdowns, the beating was finally stopped at 1:37 of the seventh in a scheduled eight. UFO is 22-3-2, while Camell drops to 7-5.

A brief suggestion to all welterweights contemplating a comeback — don't do it against Clarence White, 150, Indianapolis. White upped his mark to 7-0 with an easy six-round decision over Darrel Curtis, 147, Chicago. Curtis, who hadn't fought in a couple of years, was no match for the 19-year old White. The slick-hitting White floored Curtis twice en route to victory. Curtis is 6-6-1.

Ed Smith's return to the ring looked like it might be a short one, but the Gary native weathered some first-round leather from Jay Nelson, 197, Marion, IA, and rallied to score a knockout. Nelson (5-1) seemed to fold up when things quit going his way and lost his first fight as a result. Smith, 196, opened tentatively, but after hurting Nelson in the second round his confidence surged and he finally halted matters at 2:44 of the third in a scheduled six. Smith improved to 5-1.

Two of Chicago's top amateurs debuted on the card with four-round unanimous decisions.

Rodney Wilson, 134, Chicago, showed a wealth of skill in defeating game Floyd Johnson, 133, Fremont, OH. Wilson looked like his speed was going to end things early, but Johnson hung in there and even caught Wilson a couple of times. Wilson was the 1988 Chicago Golden Gloves champion at 132 pounds.

Another 1988 CGG champ, Lorenzo Smith, 141, Chicago, debuted against experienced pro Henry "Goodtime" Mobley, 141, Chicago, and administered an old-fashioned boxing lesson. Mobley, a veteran of some 20 fights, is a tough opener for anyone, but the taller Smith showed a lot of style and a sharp jab in copping the decision.

Davenport's David Levi, 139, beat Max Ramsey, 141, Chicago, over four rounds in a battle of debutants.

Promoter: Cedric Kushner.

Matchmaker: Jack Cowen.

Referees: Stan Berg, Nate Morgan & Tim Adams.

Judges: Bill Lerch, Mike Glienna, Jerry Jakubco & Adams.

Attendance: 214.

(9-22-88)

JEFF CARLSON

INDIANA

▶**INDIANAPOLIS**—The Sherwood Club—In a bout billed for the Indiana welterweight title, Keith Banks from Indianapolis held on to win a 12-round unanimous decision over South Bend's Hardy Jones. Banks built a large lead over the first eight rounds but faded badly, holding on for the win. The judges scored the bout as follows: Charlie Tudor 117-116, Lance Rhodes 117-114 and Gary Merritt 115-113.

In a pier-six brawl Mike Arrington, 136, South Bend, won a unanimous nod over Kevin "Bam Bam" Sedam, 133, Indianapolis. This four-round contest had more action than most 10-rounders.

Clarence White, 152½, Indianapolis, a good-looking prospect, TKO'd Barry Morris, 155, Cincinnati, at 1:09 of the second stanza.

Jerry Bilyeau, 147¼, Anderson, Indiana, and Jim Kazmerec, 144, South Bend, fought to a four-round majority draw.

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Tim Bryan, 159½, New Palestine, Indiana, KO'd Ricardo Simpson, 157½, Hamilton, Ohio, at 1:35 of the opening round.

Danny Morgan, 174½, Indianapolis, TKO'd last-minute substitute Casey McGonigle, 167, Anderson, in Round Two. Time, 1:42.

Promoter: Fred Berns.

Matchmaker: Pete Susens.

Referees: Bill Vaughn & George DeFabis.

Timekeepers: Ellie DeFabis & Harold Paton.

Physician: Rick Shedd.

Attendance: 350 (est.).

(9-13-88)

GARY L. MERRITT

MARYLAND

▶**BALTIMORE**—Teamsters Local 557 Hall—After a five-month layoff due to a torn ligament in the right shoulder and hyperextension of the left elbow, Chuck "Pit Bull" Sturm made a triumphant return to headline a well-matched, action-packed card. Sturm, 136, 13-2-1, Glen Burnie, Md., mounted a relentless attack on Junior Rodriguez, 137, Norwalk, Ct., to win all eight rounds on all the judges' cards.

Chuck remained in great shape during his layoff and used his excellent conditioning to his advantage in staying busy and never allowing his opponent a chance to rest.

"Once I wore him down in the later rounds, I was able to beat him with the jab," said Sturm. "I didn't know anything about my opponent until the weigh in and saw how tall he was and how much of a reach advantage he would have over me. I tried to out jab him, but his reach was too long. I knew I had to get inside. I just kept my head under his chin and once inside my feeling was to destroy. I wasn't thinking knockout; if it comes it comes."

Frank Gilbert, who manages Sturm, agreed, "The key was to get inside. Chuck is 5'6" and was giving away five inches tonight. We worked hard on slipping punches. He was able to slip inside and outside and was able to go downstairs."

When asked about his shoulder and elbow, Sturm replied, "They both felt 100 percent. The quickness is there."

Rodriguez, who was cut under the left eye in the third and bled from the nose from the fifth round on, reportedly drops to 8-5. Scoring: Frank Kelly and Larry Barrett 80-71, Milton Greene 80-72. Ref: Ray Klingmeyer.

Michael Lee, 185, Laurel, Md., won a six-round unanimous decision over William "KO" Morris, 185, Philadelphia, Pa. Lee, who hadn't fought since losing to Artie Lawthorne in Detroit in June of 1987 in the first round, decided to come back because "I missed it a lot. I see the top contenders. It's a perfect opportunity for me to come back and make some money and compete for a championship. I just have to get over my ring rust." Morris was not in the best of shape. Soft around the midsection, he employed a clever defense of leaning on his opponent. This tactic enabled Morris to avoid some blows and proved to be a problem for Lee. However, Lee was able to land some heavy bombs to the body which would be enough to wear Morris down and earn the victory. Ref: Barrett.

Kent "The Exterminator" Hardee, 137, Fayetteville, NC, floored his opponent, Ray Doughty, 136¼, Waterbury, Ct., in the opening seconds of the first round with a devastating left hand. Doughty barely got up at the count of 10 and shortly thereafter the left found its mark again and referee Milton Greene stopped the bout at 1:07 of the first in this scheduled six. Afterwards, Hardee, who raised his record to 13-1, dedicated this fight to his mother, who was celebrating her birthday.

Steve "Little Rock" Mistretta, 133½, Palmerton, Pa., and William "Little Wolf" Reid, 138½, Baltimore, Md., fought to a six-round draw. Mistretta would land a couple good lefts in the early going but at the same time would lunge into a couple good lefts. Mistretta, coming off a TKO loss to Lenny Bainbridge in the seventh round just over a month ago in Reading, Pa., just couldn't get anything going. A better boxer than what he showed, he seemed to have been drained of all his energy and was fighting on pure instinct and desire. He was, however, able to come on strong in the sixth to earn the draw. Ref: Kelly.

Harold "Baby Face" Bennett, 137, Winston-Salem, N.C., won a four-round unanimous decision over Lonnie Rodgers, 148¼, Oxen Hill, Md. Bennett came out strong in the first and knocked Rodgers down in the second. Rodgers regained his composure to be competitive for the remaining two rounds but it was not enough. Ref: Barrett.

John Keys, 170, Baltimore, Md., looked impressive in stopping Chris Lopresto, 171, Tamaqua, Pa., at 2:59 in the first round of a scheduled four. Lopresto was down earlier in the round and was cut under the left eye. Ref: Greene.

Promoter: Baltimore Pro Bouts Stuart Satosky & Russell Schaeffer.

Timekeeper: Harry Cechini.

Announcer: Tony Baldoni.

Judges: Ray Klingmeyer, Larry Barrett, Frank Kelly & Milton Greene.

Attendance: 750.

(9-29-88)

FRED BLUMSTEIN

MICHIGAN

▶**MT. CLEMENS**—Thomas' Crystal Gardens—Mike Jones brought in Madison Square Garden's **Glenwood "Pride of the Projects" Brown**, aka "The Real Beast," 148, to rack up win number 19 against only one loss with a textbook KO at 2:14 of the fourth against hopelessly outclassed, yet macho, Ariel Conde, 145, El Paso.

Conde felt bombs from both hands of Brown as his record slipped to 9-5.

Renaldo "Little Red" Carter, 124, took all 10 against a persistent Edgar Garcia, 123, El Paso, to stretch his record to 20-0. Garcia, 9-4, was dropped by Carter's body assault in the sixth, but provided ample competition as he easily went the distance. The decision was unanimous.

Transplanted Hoosier Tom "Boom Boom" Johnson, 126, was not to be outdone by Carter, going 13-0 with a nine-round KO of Reno's Jose Saldana, 123. Saldana, 7-1-2 after his first loss, continued to block Johnson's right hook with his face until he had his nose flattened and was dropped in the sixth. It ended at 2:04 of the ninth.

In an eight-rounder, Dangerous Courtney Hooper, 143, 21-1, appeared sluggish but competent against aging, but worthy Billy Parks, 144, 24-9, Denver. The hometowner relied on a body attack as he won the unanimous decision, but he wasn't able to stop Parks, who absorbed more than a Bounty towel.

To the shouts of "habibi!!" Khalil "The Sheik" Khalil pumped up the volume all over Monroe, Louisiana's Melvin Bissant, 140. The compact, 134½-pound Sheik treated his many Middle Eastern fans to a rollicking, shoulder-to-shoulder trade war before getting a KO at 44 seconds of the third of the scheduled four. Khalil, of Dearborn, went 4-0, while Bissant is 0-2.

In the wildest event of the evening that stretched into morning, Paratrooper John Hanson, 150½, 2-0, Dearborn Heights, decisioned Monroe's Keith Earl, 152½, 0-2, over four. Both wrestled, pounded, pushed and butted their way into the hearts of ringsiders.

Westland's up-and-coming 135-pound Jeff "Sweet Ice" Styers stayed perfect in seven starts by spoiling the pro debut of Louisiana's Teddy Washington, 141, with a unanimous four-round decision.

Promoters: ABC Promotions/Johnny "Ace" Smith/Linda Wilson.

Matchmakers: Duke Durden & Payton Sher.

Judges: Cynthia Wrobel, Jim Hoomian & Herman McKalpain.

Referees: Jim Quigley & Marv McDonald.

Timekeepers: Joe Kollins & Ken Pace.

Physicians: Saul Shapiro & Ralph Sachs.

Announcer: Jim Ingram.

(9-28-88)

▶**AUBURN HILLS**—The Palace—**Mark Breland**, Brooklyn, played matador for 1:46 of the first stanza on fellow 146-pounder Ozzie O'Neal of Youngstown, Ohio.

O'Neal was down twice before Breland administered the coup de grace with a pair of right hooks that saw Breland post his 22nd victory against one defeat and a draw. O'Neal is 19-7.

The generally poor level of competition on this card, which drew an incredible 16,634 to the jewel of Michigan arenas, didn't go unnoticed as those in attendance resoundly booed several of the undercard bouts. Ringside's Bill Kozerski and promoter/matchmaker Tom Vaca are going to have to be careful not to kill the goose that laid the golden egg. The knowledgeable Detroit fans expect and deserve better from the Kronk-sponsored monthly showcases.

The one bright spot was magnificent **Michael Moorer**, 177, Detroit via Pennsylvania, whose 8-0 record was on the line for less than two rounds. At 1:25 of the second stanza two Moorer hooks cleaned the clock of Jorge Suero, 181, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Suero, 15-3, made three trips to the canvas, overall. Moorer can do the deed with either hand and his ring generalship and poise are textbook quality.

New addition John David Jackson, southpaw 155-pounder from Detroit, kept the Kronk string going as he upped his score to 16-0 with a TKO at 1:02 of the fourth over Chato Ramos, 154, Tyler, Texas. Ramos, who claimed a 17-2 record, suffered a badly broken nose from a wicked left by Jackson that had him saying "no mas."

Scott DePew, 127, 6-1, Defiance, Ohio, gave a clinic as the polished 18-year-old polished off withered Ryan Fore, 124½, 1-2, Milwaukee, at 1:57 of the second. Fore took DePew's body shots and overhand rights as if he was being paid by the punch absorbed before going down for the third time.

Kronk West's (Tucson) Anthony Lopez, another 18-year-old 127-pounder, made a successful pro debut by stopping Milwaukee's Sherman Dixon, 129½, in just 2:11. Dixon is 2-4.

Tony Robinson, an 18-year-old whose pro debut ended in a bizarre no contest on the last card at The Palace, finally got to show his stuff with a TKO at 2:19 of the second round over Aletius Ray of Battle Creek. Robinson, 149½, Detroit, used a fast right hand to drop Ray, 147½, three times in the first round. The 20-year-old Ray was making his pro debut.

Mike "Dynamite" Dersa, another 18-year-old making his pro debut, scored an impressive KO at 2:44 of the second over Keith Baker of Detroit. Baker, who matched Dersa's 141 pounds, was down more times than you could count in dropping to 0-2.

The one bout that went the distance saw Lee Huffnagel, 139¾, Youngstown, Ohio, take a unanimous four-round decision over Atwillow Wright, 142, for a successful pro bow. Huffnagel had a field day, delivering every punch in his repertoire as Wright dipped to 1-2.

Promoter: Ringside/Kronk.
Matchmaker: Tom Vaca.
Physicians: Ferris & Kaplan.
Referees: Sam Williams & Tom Briscoe.
Judges: Garza, Hoomian & Miley.
Timekeepers: Hitsky & Pace.
Announcer: Wally Jackson.
TV: FNN/Score & PASS.
Attendance: 16,634.

TOM PARUSZKIEWICZ

MISSOURI



Luis Santana looked very lucky to retain his NABF welterweight title via a 12-round draw with Louis Howard in St. Louis.

▶**ST. LOUIS**—Riverboat Admiral — **Luis Santana** retained his NABF welterweight title with a disputed 12-round draw with Houston's **Louis Howard.**

Howard, 147, St. Louis, appeared to outbox the plodding Santana throughout, but judge Bob Watson gave the titleholder a 117-112 edge. Dick Cole reversed that, scoring for Howard, 116-112, but Rich Daniels had it even at 114.

Santana, 147, Hawthorne, California, is 35-8-2 with 26 knockouts. Howard is 16-1-1 with 14 KOs.

Art Jimmerson, 174, St. Louis, won a comfortable and unanimous 10-round decision over Riverside, California's Jerry Okoro. Jimmerson put Okoro, 169, down once en route to the win. Craig Aldrich scored 99-93, Daniels had it 98-92 and Chuck Finch carded 96-94 as Jimmerson upped his record to 11-2 with six KOs. Okoro fell to 14-7-1 with nine KOs.

Minnesota's Dan Morgan stopped Mississippi's Ronnie Yoe in six rounds.

Wisconsin heavyweight Tim Tomashek took a hard four-round decision over Jackson's Stan Holt.

Ralston's Kenny Schaefer took a four-round decision over Wichita's Steve Langley.

Defiance, Ohio featherweight Scott DePew decisioned Oklahoma's City's Jose Sanchez over four rounds.

Promoter: Top Rank.
Referees: Chuck Kerlagon & Marvin Elam.
Announcer: Michael Buffer.
TV: ESPN.
(9-27-88)

NEVADA

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Bally's—**Joe Lasisi** almost tripped over opportunity the last time the light heavyweight visited Bally's casino resort. Fortunately, the 29-year-old transplanted Nigerian's punching power surfaced in time to rally him from the brink of disaster.

Now Lasisi, who adopted Las Vegas and vice-versa, must sweat out the politics of boxing to collect a shot at the 175-pound title promised if he ruined the western debut of **Uriah Grant** out of Miami Beach, Fla.

Lasisi lived up to his obligation after beng almost out on his feet in the second round. Joe came on to bloody Grant's nose in the fourth round and knocked the Jamaica original down in the ninth round en route to a unanimous 10-round decision.

Banner Promotions of Philadelphia, in its second card at the Strip venue, announced to a crowd of 1,535 the winner would get a crack at the International Boxing Federation 175-pound crown which **Prince Charlie Williams** defended against Rufino Angulo Oct. 14 in Paris.

Lasisi, 175, improved his credentials to 20-0 with 19 KOs.

Grant, 176, was making his first start since last November at New Haven, Conn., where the IBF's No. 1 challenger knocked out Louis Coleman in one round. Finishing with a deep cut over his left eye and a freely bleeding nose, the gutty Grant's log fell to 15-5 with 14 KOs.

Making his fifth local appearance, Lasisi turned on the heat in his best effort since turning pro in 1983, nearly three years before destiny would bring the African light heavyweight champion to America.

The pride of Chris Dundee scored with a combination when Lasisi invited disaster by dropping his hands against a rival who fired punches from all angles when he wasn't trying to cover behind a peek-abo defense.

Suddenly, Lasisi caught another right to the jaw. The rugged man from Lagos had his knees buckled, but he broke free of the ropes, lurching forward to flounder about the ring like a man trying to catch a bus.

With less than a minute left in the round, Grant was unable to drive home the clincher as the stunned Lasisi moved in retreat until the bell.

"I was in 100 percent shape for this fight and I think it helped me in the second round. I knew I have to move away. If I stayed in front of Grant, a very strong guy, he might have put me down," Lasisi reviewed.

Lasisi drew trouble when he elected to work off the ropes counter-punching and was at his best when firing left hooks and punishing uppercuts inside.

Lasisi began to solidify the action in the sixth round with hooks and jabs. By the ninth round, Grant's cut optic worsened and Lasisi nearly ended it when he caught Uriah with a vicious right on top of the head. Grant pitched forward on his face in a delayed-reaction effect.

Hurt and bleeding, the Florida fighter managed to struggle to his feet as referee Davey Pearl's count reached "eight." Before Lasisi could resume his growing attack, Grant got a reprieve by the bell.

Knowing Grant needed a knockout, Lasisi got on his bicycle and jabbed out of harm's way in the 10th round.

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PEARSON

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The scoring: Chuck Giampa 97-91; Dave Moretti 98-92, and Pat Jarman 97-93.

The prelims included:

Lee Sentella, 168, Anchorage, Alaska, improved to 12-2-1, six KOs with a unanimous six-round decision over Rickey Berroa, 168, Las Vegas, who fell to 3-2.

Matt Belcher, 204, Everett, Wash., moved to 3-0 when he kayoed Lorenzo Holloway, 208, Las Vegas, at 1:32 of the first round, the latter dipping to 2-1.

Jeff Mayweather, 132, Las Vegas, advanced to 3-0 with a unanimous four-round decision over Noe Lopez, 134, Nogalas, Ariz.

Ronnie Woodley, 154, Philadelphia, made his pro debut with a knockout of Cliff Jackson (2-8), 134, Las Vegas, at 1:43 of the first round.

(9-24-88)

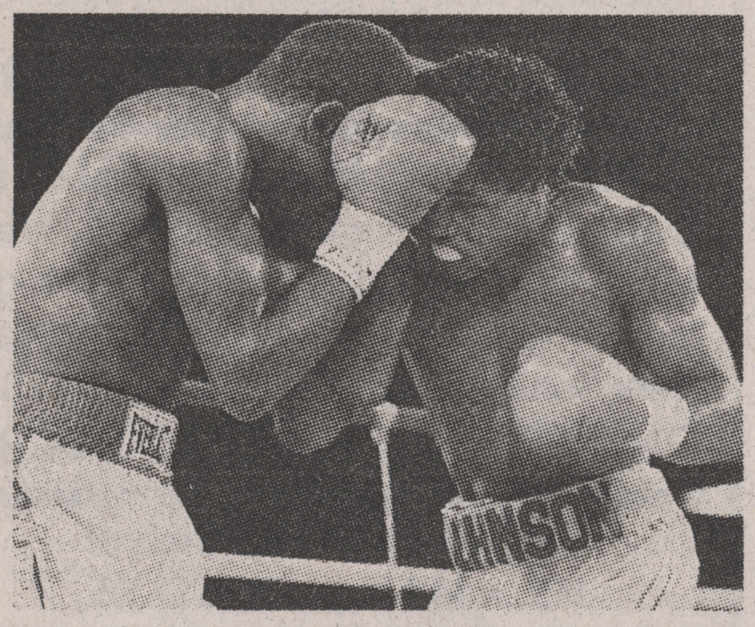


PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Mike Johnson (right) kept the pressure on Robert Guy every step of the way to win a decisive 10-round decision at the Showboat Hotel-Casino in Las Vegas.

▶**LAS VEGAS**—Showboat Hotel-Casino — Every time Mike Johnson leaves home for a sojourn to Las Vegas, he always seems to find a different way to show his versatility in a boxing ring.

The 22-year-old collegian from Ann Arbor, Mich., was virtually unknown west of the Mississippi when he debuted sensationally June 17 by getting of the canvas to ruin Engels Pedroza's alleged invincibility with a ninth-round TKO at the Showboat.

Johnson returned to the 'Boat in August, this time opposite the more-experienced, ever-swarming Martin Quiroz from San Jose, Calf. The Kronk gym's latest hope appeared to pull out the victory in the final two rounds, but he had to settle for a disputed draw in 10 rounds.

Matchmaker Mel Greb brought Johnson back to the Showboat in October and the rock-ribbed warrior took no chances with the judges, punishing Fort Worth's Robert Guy every step of the way.

Guy, 140, making only his second start in 15 months, showed the layoff hurt as a top-conditioned Johnson 141, kept backing his man with hooks and uppercuts to the body, plus combinations to the head which delivered the only knockdown in the fourth round.

Guy, managed and trained by David Gorman, dropped to one knee from a short overhand right early in the round. Taking a "nine count" from referee Richard Steele, the Texan was under pressure until the bell, but he never went down again despite Johnson's sharp digs to the ribs.

Guy fought in flurries in the closing rounds, but it didn't influence the judges as Jerry Roth and Art Lurie tabbed it 99-90 and Patricia Jarman voted 99-91, all for Johnson.

Johnson, a pro since January, 1984, improved his record to 17-1-2, 11 KOs while Guy, the 1985 national Golden Gloves champion at 139, dipped to 11-2-2, eight KOs.

Greb was showcasing Johnson for a projected return with Pedroza, but it probably won't happen until sometime in 1989 — if then.

Johnson and his connections, Stacey McKinley and Luther Burgress, are willing to give the WBA's No. 7 140-pounder a return match but only if the money is correct.

"I'm anxious to fight again in November or December, so that means Pedroza is out until next year. I hope I can come back here soon because I like Vegas, the people and the opportunities. Who knows? We might even move out here," Johnson advised.

Johnson was satisfied with his showing, but admitted Guy's "lateral movement was a bit of a problem.

"I should have used a double jab more than I did and work into him. But I knew I hurt Guy in the fourth and seventh rounds. I know it was my body punching that took its toll," Johnson said.

Gorman, who has developed such talent as Don Curry, Stevie Cruz and Gene Hatcher, made no excuses for Guy, whose only previous loss was a close 10-round decision to John Meekins June 23, 1987 in Atlantic City. After all, the 23-year-old Texan had won 140 of 200 amateur fights before turning pro early in 1986. He had also developed considerable skills as a boxer-puncher.

Like many of Johnson's previous victims, Guy and his strategists didn't reckon on a superbly conditioned athlete who is on you from bell to bell. The rugged Michigander isn't just a swarmer, but equally mean in punching to the head and body.

McKinley, who handles Johnson in association with **Emanuel Steward,** admits Mike's road game to the winner's circle is his highly developed stamina.

"Mike's skills are improving with every bout, but it's that durability, dedication and desire that often pulls him through. We knew coming out here the first time that beating Pedroza had to be on a knockout. There's no way Johnson was going to win a decision," the trainer reminded. "Well, you know what happened . . . Mikey was down early, shook it off and came on to wear out Pedroza before stopping him in the ninth. And don't ever forget it — Engels Pedroza is a helluva puncher."

The undercard included:

Johnny Baldwin, 127, of Odessa, Tex., stopped Jerald McNeal, 127, Houston, at 2:07 of the second round in a slated four-rounder.

David Cox, 136, of Las Vegas took a unanimous four-round decision over Noe Lopez, 136, of Tucson, Ariz.

Kevin Grantham, 155, Las Vegas, got off the floor to chill Raul Marquis, 155, Tucson, Ariz., at 2:51 of the fourth round in what was scheduled for six.

Joe Rincones, 123, Long Beach, Calif., recorded a unanimous eight-round decision over Alex Valenzuela, 124, Sonora, Mexico.

Attendance: 1,200 (est.).

(10-8-88)

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NEW JERSEY

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Atlantis Hotel & Casino—They did everything within reason to bring the immensely popular "Rockin' Rock" back, but it wasn't enough. **Robin Blake**, 145, Levelland, TX, suffered a crushing upset TKO to **Victor Davis**, 144, Mitchellville, MD, after seven rounds of a scheduled 10. A lighthitting craftsman bringing in a 15-5 record, Davis was a victor on the club circuit who seemed unable to win in the big leagues. But he prepared well and it was evident from the first round that he was not there to be the vehicle of Robin's return. The lanky, standup Davis afforded Blake no luxury in reach, and outgunned Robin in free-spirited trading from the very outset. Blake looked used-up, and a notch off his timing as a swelling began under his left eye in the second. With a touch of desperation, the favorite resembled a man looking for something that was no longer there. But he still showed enough power to keep alive the hope that he would eventually pull out a costly victory. Davis was shaken any number of times when Robin was able to finish off the exchanges, but Blake was never able to take anything Davis didn't give him. When Victor pedalled away, Robin could only follow in frustration.

The dogfight ripped open in the fifth as both fighters were showing signs of wear and tear. The Texan was first to yield as a right down the slot surprised him onto the canvas early. Davis meted out considerable punishment before a tattered Blake stopped the torment with a desperation right. Despite the early success, it was Victor who appeared beaten at the close of the round. Blake was reaching him in the sixth as Davis, not known for his sturdiness, appeared to have finally fallen short in a gallant effort. But the withering pace was telling on both warriors. It became a question of which would outlast the other as the Texan launched what was to be his final attack to open the seventh. By the end of the round Robin was finished, bleeding and pummelled. He retired from the fray, then (possibly) from the game.

"All those battles start to add up on a man," he admitted. "I had points tonight where I thought I would turn it around and get him, but the punches never came off. Right now, I don't feel like I want to do this any more What's the use?" But he qualified, "Maybe five months from now, I'll think differently. You know, once a fighter, always a fighter."

Stated the winner in counterpoint, "The break was the best thing for me. I'm more determined than I've ever been." Ref, Tony Orlando.

The semi eight saw the possible retirement of another popular battler as boxing returned to what was once a most flourishing venue with an excellent card. Paul McPeek, 160½, Detroit, beat up and TKO'd Angel Sindo, 160, Deptford, NJ, at 2:40 of the seventh. Showing a good mix of punches under and over, McPeek doubled his man with body shots, then brought rights up to the head to floor the durable Sindo in the first. A rugged battler who broadened the definition of "crowd-pleaser," Sindo could beat superior opponents by discouraging them with the futility of hitting him! But the message was lost on McPeek, a guileless brawler with only a "full steam ahead" approach. Miles behind, Angel was gamely trying to mount a rally around a cut on McPeek's left eye, when Paul switched southpaw, nailed him with a right, then dressed him up on the ropes until Ted Pick intervened. The unbeaten winner scored his 16th, while Angel ended at 10-9-2.

In a battle of lefties, Ronnie Cooley, 120, Phila., returned with a deserved split verdict over Ruben Nevaraez, 123, Wichita Falls, TX, four. A surprise right hook dropped Cooley in the first, but Nevarez blew the second trying to find it again, then faded to his first loss after two wins. Cooley became 5-0. Ref, Pick.

Larry Barnes, 145½, Mt. Vernon, NY, was too strong and vigorous for Michael Howard, 145¾, Williamston, SC, who was no longer in the fight when Orlando stopped it at 1:37 of the fourth and last.

Lamont Parks, 153, Greenville, SC, showed a touch of class in completely dominating prospect Lennell "Grandpa" Strohman, 150, York, PA, for a unanimous win, four. Ref, Orlando.

Bruce Seldon, 210, Atlantic City, overwhelmed an intimidated Joel McGraw, 201½, Greenwood, SC, who was stopped on his feet at 2:17 of the first, scheduled four. Ref, Pick.

Promoter: Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).

Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner & Ron Katz.

Attendance: 550 (est.).

TV: ESPN.

Judges: Vinnie Rainone, Eugene Grant, & Frank Cairo.

Timekeeper: Justin Bucanico.

Announcer: Mike Buffer.

(10-4-88)

J.R. JOWETT

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Resorts International Hotel-Casino — **Myron Taylor** had it all his way in registering a TKO win at 2:51 of the fifth over Alberto Mercado, 126¾, formerly of Puerto Rico, but now boxing out of Orlando, Florida; scheduled for 10. While both have left their best days behind them, it appears Taylor has found at least of late, a trickle of youth.

Myron, now 25-7-2, 13 KOs, not known as a big banger, came out to find himself faced with a jaded and easily dissectable enemy and proceeded to systematically chop him down. Taylor was frighteningly on target in the opening stanza, only to find Mercado somehow still standing.

Alberto, now 29-10-1, 25 KOs and now a loser in seven of his last nine outings, finally did manage to put across some stinging rights in Round Three, but his unsteadiness let him down. Cut under the left eye and then backed into Taylor's corner, he was left virtually incoherent and defenseless after a sudden thunderbolt right had put him in no position to continue, referee Paul Venti wisely halting the bout.

"I had a feeling I would get to him sooner or later, but the knockout just wasn't happening when I thought it would," said the winner. "I had to be careful with this guy because he was a pretty good puncher even when he was hurt. He was throwing those desperation punches and wasn't about to give up."

Class isn't always in the record. Case in point: Harold Rhodes, 130½, Elizabeth, NJ, had a meager 9-2, four KO log with only one meaningless win going the full 10, while Billy Young, 132, Bay City, Mi., sported a far glossier 23-1-1 mark with 17 KOs and had three times gone 10. Forget about it. After Young boxed well enough to take the first, Rhodes, simply put, got right down to it and ran Billy right out of the ring in a shockingly easy and fast-paced unanimous win over the 30-minute route. Harold garnered scores of 99-89 from Joe Pasquale, 99-90 from William Kostrub and a 98-92 (same as *The Ring*) from Lynn Carter. Ref; Steve Smoger.

Three scheduled bouts of four rounds each filled out the card. Jesus "Manny" Contreras, 209, Coventry, R.I., went to 5-0-1, four KOs, as he took a TKO win at 2:58 of the second over John L. Sullivan, 203½, Bay City, Mi., now 7-1, seven KOs. While never down, Sullivan had a severe case of stage fright and was rocked one too many times, giving ref Venti little choice but to stop the bout.

The pro career of southpaw Jake Rodriguez, 141, NYC, got off to a somewhat lucky start with a draw against Ronnie Hammonds, 143, Philadelphia, now 2-0-1. The crowd-pleasing matchup saw Carter somehow give it to Rodriguez, 39-37, while Pasquale and Kostrub saw it 38-38. *The Ring* card read 39-37 for Hammonds, a classy offensive boxer-puncher, who did, however, run down in the fourth against his persistent but more limited foe. Ref; Venti.

In a pairing of pro debuts, southpaw Sharmba Mitchell, 132½, Wash., DC, was totally dominant in posting a TKO win at 2:00 of Round Three over Eddie Colon, 133¼, Waterbury, Ct. A battered and bloodied Colon took a standing eight count, and even before Smoger finished his count, the ringside doctor was already through the ropes to stop it.

Timekeeper: Roosevelt Gilbert.
Promoter: Top Rank/Gelb.
Matchmakers: Teddy Brenner & Ron Katz.
Television: ESPN.

(9-23-88)

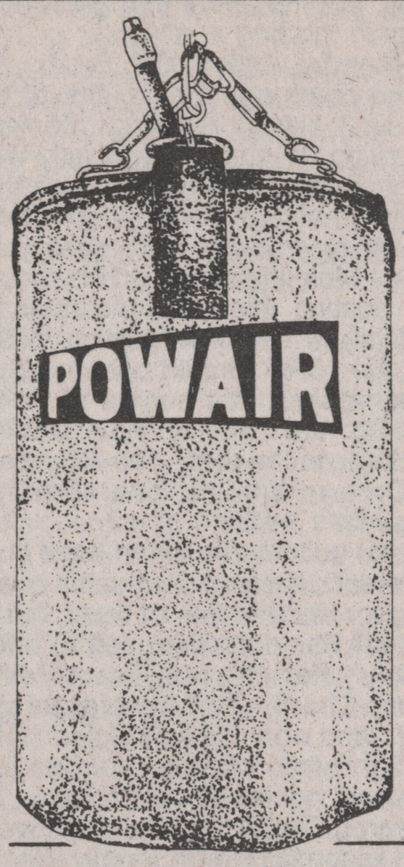
▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Caesars Boardwalk Regency Hotel-Casino — **Davey Hilton** back for only his second fight in three-plus years, couldn't have picked a more suitable foil for buffing his tarnished skills. In a showdown of undefeateds, Hilton (now 24-0-2, 19 KOs) took a near shutout 10-round decision over Ron Amundsen, 155½, Brigantine, NJ (now 13-1-1, five KOs).

Early on it appeared the fragile looking Amundsen would surely be drilled to the canvas by the penetrating blows (especially the left hook to the body) of Hilton. Thankfully (?), for Ron, Davey was a picture of frugalness, revealing later he felt his inactivity was hindering his timing. Easing off, he allowed Ron to stick around for a complete whipping. While showing a ton of respect for Hilton's quick power punches Amundsen displayed a toughness of his own, his own boxing abilities having been taken away from him by those early body shots.

Making it through the full 10, and having survived a right-hand knockdown in the seventh and a broken jaw in the 10th, Ron had to stand through the announcing of the lopsided scores: 100-89 from both Phil Newman and Ron Burns and a 99-91 from Al DeVito, which *The Ring* agreed with. Ref; Frank Cappuccino.

"I usually fire off four or five punches in a row," said Hilton. "Since I hadn't fought in so long I had the rust. I was shooting out two and three punches, waiting, then throwing one or two." Amundsen said, "I've been rocked harder by fighters, but I've got to say his power was really there. I was trying to circle, stay away from his power. I kept moving into his left hook."

In an encounter not long ago, Carl Sullivan, 151½, Pittsburgh, Pa., had stopped Verno "Wink" Phillips, 148, Troy, NY. It was Verno's first defeat and he was eager to even the score. It made for a very interesting clash of ebb and flow and lost opportunities, mainly on the part of Phillips, as this time Sullivan came away with an eight-round unanimous verdict. Carl used his boxing ability to ward off the powerful combinations of Verno, and when Phillips did manage to get off and sting Sul-

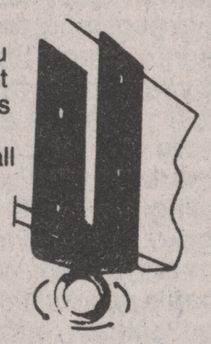


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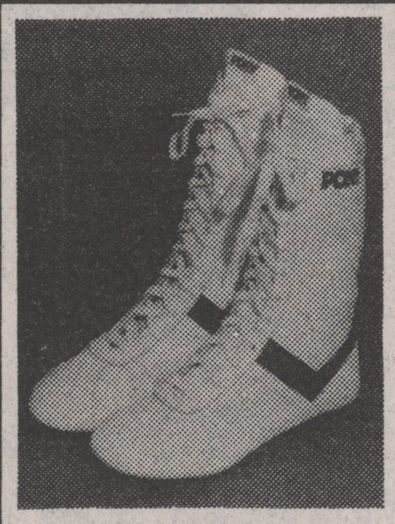


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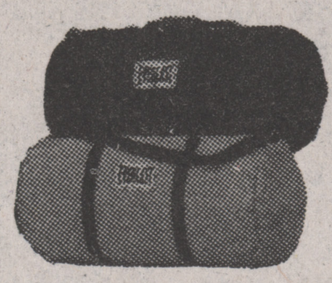
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livan, Carl resorted to firing back to stem the tide. Ready to go on three occasions, Sullivan pulled himself together and took control with will to win vollies. Scores: Burns, 77-75, Newman, 78-74, and DeVito, 77-76. *The Ring* had 78-76 for Sullivan, who raised his record to 6-0 with four KOs, while Phillips is now listed at 4-2, one KO. Ref; Ted Pick.

In a wild one scheduled for four, Roosevelt Williams, 164, Brooklyn, survived a stormy Round One and took home a first-round TKO win when foe Joe Carr, 162, Irvington, NJ, was unable to come out for the second. Apparently, Carr had run out of gas in his all-out offensive that was so animated when Williams was dropped for a quickie knockdown, referee Pick could not intervene soon enough to administer a count. While the two continued to duke it out, Pick was finally able to intercede only because Williams was dropped again. So though he was down twice, Williams received only one count! With the win, Williams went to 5-0, while Carr fell to 2-2.

King Solomon, 129¾, Phila., had a rather easy time of it when he hoodwinked a gun shy Jose Perez, 130¼, Brigantine, NJ, and took a four-round unanimous decision by scores of 40-36 from DeVito, 40-37 from Newman and 39-37 from Burns. ref; Cappuccino. Solomon got his initial win after one draw, while Perez fell to 2-2.

Timekeeper: Art Spell.
Promoter: HBA.
Matchmaker: Ron Katz.
Television: USA Cable.
(9-29-88)

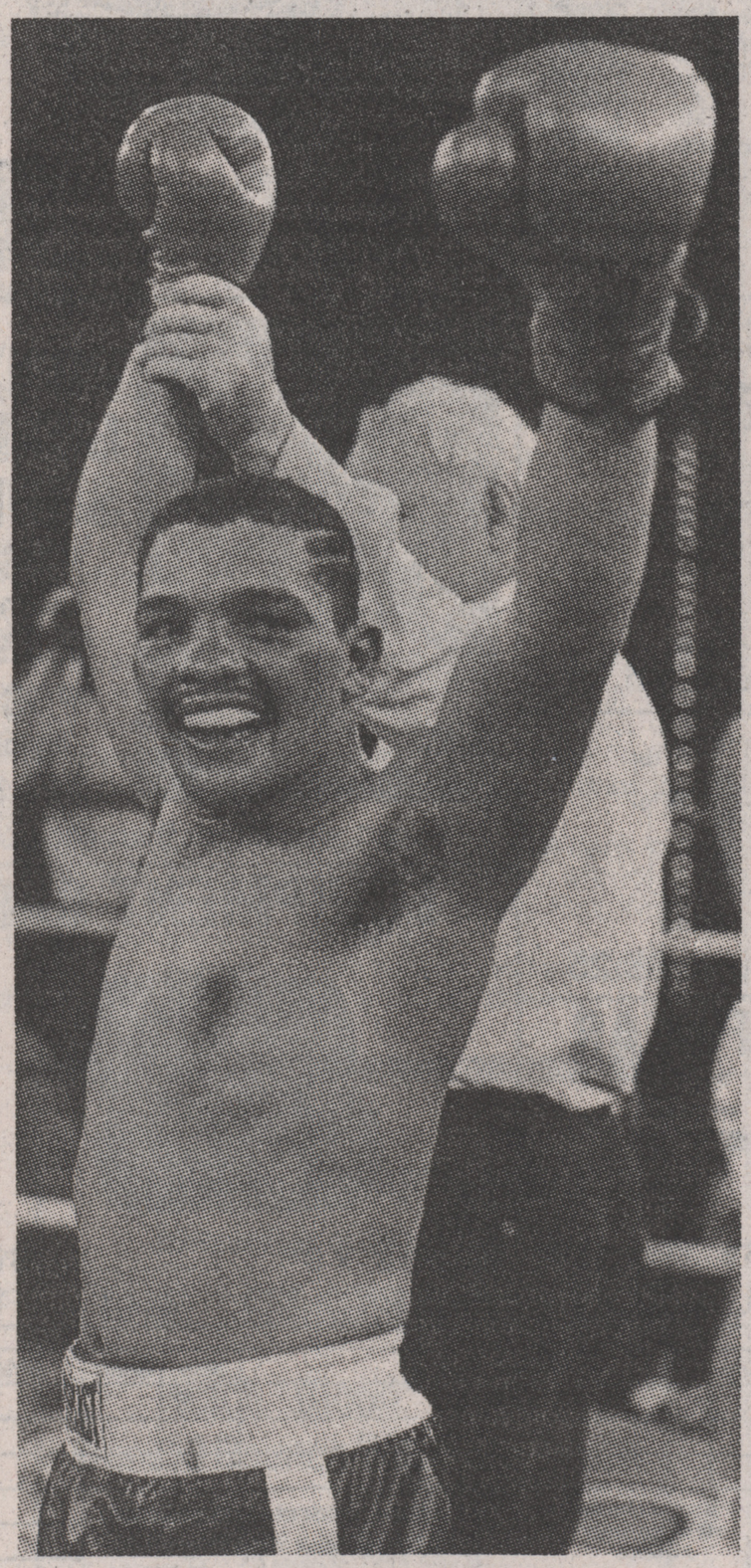


PHOTO BY ERIC B. HUGHES

Joey Ferrell celebrates a career-saving win over Charlie "White Lightning" Brown, whose own career seems just about over.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY**—Resorts International Hotel-Casino — If not for the fact that his opponent was a 41-year-old cagey ex-champion, it would have been just another in a growing list of ho-hum performances by now nearly perennial prospect **John Wesley Meekins**, 143½, NYC. Sure, he won clearly and cleanly with little fuss nor muss, but the spark that generates greatness was once again missing in action.

For his part, **Saoul Mamby,** 143¾, The Bronx, did what he does best; shut down opponents. But at his advanced ring age, it isn't always working. Meekins wasted little motion in piling up points, especially with the left hook. It was only in rounds seven and 10 that Mamby elected to throw off his cover of caution to try and make a fight of it, with the crowd reacting favorably. It was far from enough as Meekins improved his record to 20-1-2, 15 KOs, in posting this 10-round majority decision. Don't let that fool you into thinking it was close. Judge John Riley and his 95-95 should assuredly be looked into by the commission. The scores of 98-93 and 100-90 from judges Richard F. Murry and Al DeVito, respectively, were far closer to the truth. *The Ring* card read 99-92. Ref; Joe Cortez. With the loss, Mamby's record falls to 39-21-5, with 17 KOs.

For two guys who never quite made it and were both coming off first-round defeats, it wasn't so much a question of the loser looking for another line of work, but of the winner thinking he still has something left to offer. Nice guy **Joey "Bugsey" Ferrell**, 148, Franklinville, NJ, squared off against **Charlie "White Lightning" Brown**, 144¼, Silvis, IL. and won this scheduled 10 by TKO at 2:36 of Round Eight when a bad cut surrounding the left eye of Brown would not let him continue.

To that point, it appeared Ferrell had a slight advantage. With neither man responding with trigger-like reflexes nor explosive punching, there was more slapping taking place then in a Three Stooges routine. Brown, after nearly three years away from the ring, continued to display his face-first offense and paid dearly for that time "honored" tactic.

Ferrell ups his mark to 13-8-2 with seven KOs (where is the logic in calling this a KO win? Does this make Joey a feared knockout artist?) and he says "I'm back." Think again, my man. Brown, now 26-4 with 18 KOs, finished with his battle against the bottle, should try and rehabilitate his outlook on employment. Ref; Randy Neumann.

Lefty Sharmba Mitchell, 134¼, D.C., went to 2-0 when he demolished Randy Kearse, 133¾, Brooklyn, by TKO at 2:01 of Round Two. Backed up most of Round One, Randy was dropped by a right-left combination in the second, with referee Neumann later stopping the bout. Kearse fell to 2-2-1.

In a matchup of pro debuts, Clinton Mitchell, 174½, NYC, proved to be the busier if not harder puncher in taking a majority win over Bernard Hopkins, 177, Trenton, NJ. Scores: Riley, 38-38, Murry, 39-37, and DeVito, 39-38. *The Ring* tabbed it 38-38. Ref; Cortez.

Two southpaws met in their initial money bouts and Craig Wills, 133½, Cincinnati, went home the victor over skinny Joe Mitchell, 130, NYC, with a second-round TKO when Mitchell was not allowed out for the next round. Wills was in command all the way and had a big Round Two, thus encouraging the stoppage by referee Cortez.

Timekeeper: Lindsey Tucker.
Promoter: Top Rank/Gelb.
Matchmakers: Katz & Brenner.
Television: ESPN.
(10-11-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

NEW YORK

▶**BROOKLYN**—Gleason's Arena—After a rather successful initial card in May, Powerhouse Enterprises waited out the blistering summer and came back with an eight-bout card that met with mixed reviews.

In a scheduled 10 for the vacant New York State junior lightweight title, Richie "The Ninja" Otero, 129½, Brooklyn, took a close but unanimous decision over Aristides Acevedo, 128, The Bronx. Otero, now 10-7, six KOs, played the part of the elusive but unschooled target, while Acevedo, now a reported 12-5-2, six KOs, appeared to be the ineffective aggressor; content on trying to land the KO punch. It didn't make for much in the way of fireworks and many felt the decision was unjust.

Scores: Al Reid, 7-3; Coley Wallace, 6-3-1, and George Colon, 6-4. The referee was Fred Ucci.

In a co-feature eight, undefeated Alex Stewart, 226, Brooklyn, raised his perfect mark to 17-0, all by KO, making short work of Tim "T-Bone" Adams, 210, Mobile, Al. (now 9-4-2, nine KOs) when he was awarded a TKO win at 1:52 of the first. While Adams did manage to drop in a few revealing rights to the jaw of the still-green Stewart, Alex was in turn able to drive his foe into a defensive posture along the ropes. A severe cut appeared over Adams' left eye, and referee Arthur Mercante Sr. stopped the contest.

Lanky Bruce Johnson, 190, Youngstown, Ohio, won by TKO at 1:13 of Round Three in a scheduled six over Richard Brownrigg, 195, Long Beach, NY. Dropped by a jab in the first, Brownrigg never did solve the reach advantage of Johnson. Ref; Mercante.

Southpaw Kevin Marston, 129, took a unanimous six-round decision over fellow lefty Jorge Rivas, 129. In this battle of the boroughs, Marston, of Queens, scored a flash knockdown of Rivas (from Manhattan) in the first and took a one-sided win with tallies of 5-1 from Colon and 6-0s from Reid and Wallace. Ref; Ucci.

Bayonne's Dom Scibetta, 168, had an easy time of it with the ill-equipped David Fields, 170, Brooklyn, and won this scheduled four by TKO in three when Fields was unable to come out for the final round. Ref; Wayne Kelly.

Mike Brown, 149½, NYC, fought his second draw in just three pro bouts in a tangle with Michael Hooper, 151, Irvington, NJ. There were no knockdowns in this uninspiring affair refereed by Sammy Viruet. Scores: Wallace had it 3-1 for Hooper, while Reid and Colon tabbed it 2-2.

In a scheduled four, muscular Freddy Johnson, 168, Queens, got his first victory (after two defeats) as he won by TKO at just 1:05 of the first over Larry Steele, 169, Edison, NJ. Though Steele was never down, referee Kelly had to stop it when Larry was getting punched around fairly well.

The pro debut of lefty Josue Lopez, 119, Brooklyn, was a successful one as he took a clean sweep shutout over the still winless (now 0-3) Alfred Taylor, 118½, NYC. Taylor was dropped in the opening session, suffering a cut left eye to boot. Ref; Viruet.

Timekeeper: Cecilio Pedraja.
Promoter: Powerhouse Enterprises.
Matchmaker: Ron Scott Stevens.
Announcer: Ed Derian.
Attendance: 550 paying fans shelled out $12,500.
(9-23-88)

JACK OBERMAYER

NORTH CAROLINA

▶**CONCORD**—Charlotte Motor Speedway — Middleweight Billy Bridges, Lincolnton, stoped Frank Waters, Greenville, South Carolina, 33 seconds into the third round in front of 34,000 spectators who attended pole position qualifying for the Oakwood Homes 500 NASCAR race.

Heavyweight Calvin Jones, Cincinnati, TKO'd Ricky James, Marion, South Carolina, at 2:36 of the first round.

Charlotte heavyweight Eddy Curry won by unanimous decision over Shelby's Larry Howell.

Mark Carrier, Bristol, Tennessee heavyweight, stopped Cincinnati's Tim McCurdy in just 1:03.

Chester, South Carolina featherweight Cedric Mingo scored a unanimous decision over Shelby's Richard Brooks.
(10-5-88)

OKLAHOMA

▶**OKLAHOMA CITY**—Prepping for a possible WBA junior welterweight title fight against **Juan Coggi,** NABF super lightweight champ **Harold Brazier** stayed busy with a seven-round TKO over Jerry Brown.

Brazier took the bout after his scheduled match with Canada's John Kalbhenn fell through.

Southpaw Rocky Berg, a local lightweight, took a hard-fought, six-round split decision over Indiana's Mike Arrington.

Minnesota light heavyweight Dan Morgan stopped Wilson Douglas of Memphis in four rounds.

Wisconsin heavyweight Tim Tomashek won a unanimous decision over Tulsa, Oklahoma's Alan Jamison in six.
(10-4-88)

▶**OKLAHOMA CITY**—Central Plaza—Light heavyweight Dan Morgan of Minnesota was awarded a four-round disqualification win over Mississippi's Anthony Adams, who kneed Morgan in the face as he ducked.

The two started punching even before the opening bell when Adams knocked Morgan's hat off his head. Adams was warned twice for hitting after the bell before he was disqualified.

Heavyweight Tim Tomashek of Wisconsin stopped Iowa's Jimbo Edwards in four rounds.

Local lightweight Rodney Porter was awarded a controversial, split four-round verdict over Muncie, Indiana's Timmy Bonds.

Local welterweight Buck Smith won a four-round decision over Richie White of Little Rock, Arkansas.

Promoter: Sean Gibbons.

(9-20-88)

PENNSYLVANIA

▶**SHARPSVILLE**—Players Athletic Club—Knockout artist **John "The Beast" Mugabi**, 157, Uganda, stayed busy in his quest for a title shot with a third-round TKO of Mike Sachetti, 156½, Houston, in the headline 10-rounder.

Sachetti started rather well, winning the first two rounds with lateral movement and sneak counters. In the third, however, a chopping Mugabi right during a break floored Sachetti, who never recovered fully from the blow. Two subsequent knockdowns and the bout was halted at 2:04.

The crowd didn't take too well to Mugabi's hitting on the break and, as a result, he was showered with beer cans and ice following the stoppage.

After, Mugabi's handler, **Mickey Duff**, stated that Mugabi's next fight would be against **Donald Curry** for Curry's WBC super welterweight title.

In a scheduled eight, Lenzi Morgan, 165, Youngstown, was too sharp for veteran Tony Curovic, 174, Cleveland, scoring a four-round TKO. Morgan was pitching a shutout and Curovic, who took a standing-eight in the third, was catching. After four, referee Paddy Grimes had seen enough.

Robert Briggs, 149, Youngstown, started strong and finished well, but did absolutely nothing in between and ended up losing a unanimous six-round verdict to sharp-punching Lamark Davis, 150, Dayton. Lou Bizzarro scored 30-27, Herb Scott 30-25 and Grimes, 30-24.

In the card's opener, which featured two debutants, Cornelius McClellan, 176, Erie, won a unanimous decision over Pat Donnelly, 183, Ft. Myers, in a rugged four. Bizzarro, Scott and DePaul each scored 20-16.

Promoter: Greg Augustine.

Matchmaker: Greg Augustine.

Referees: Paddy Grimes & Andy DePaul.

Judges: Lou Bizzarro, Herb Scott, Andy DePaul & Paddy Grimes.

Attendance: 800 (est.).

(9-27-88)

ERICH GLIEBE

▶**PHILADELPHIA**—Pennsylvania Hall—The long-smoldering dream of reviving the past glories of big-arena boxing in Philly got at least a glimmer of encouragement. Promoter Russell Peltz showcased three of his heroes against underdog, but hardly dogmeat opposition, in scheduled 10s. Only two of them were left standing when it was all over. Left for dead on the roadside was Hughie "Buttons" Kearney, 148½, W. Phila., who was startingly TKO'd by a written-off Vincent Pettway, 149½, Baltimore, at only 1:12 of the second. Pettway came in a glossy 25-2, but that's all it appeared to be . . . gloss . . . after having been twice kayoed in "must-win" bouts. However, he also brought in a solid fight plan to "take it to" the southpaw cutie using hot pursuit with left hooks over Hughie's jab and crackling rights straight down the slot. Buttons wasn't given a chance to establish his stylish boxing or the usual southpaw bewilderment.

Late in the first, Kearney was caught on the strands, turning sideways in an awkward attempt to extricate himself. Vince sidestepped smartly and fired a left hook that snapped Hughie's head back over the ropes. The intercession of the bell did nothing to alter the flow of the bout. Pettway gunned down Kearney with a straight right to open the second. Under heavy pressure, a long right launched Buttons into the ropes, where he was swatted down by a left hook for the second and final time, dropping him to 18-2-1. The invader commented he was "pleasantly surprised" that the loser tried to trade with him after the rocky first. Rudy Battle refereed.

In the topper, Peltz got another scare when hero **Tony Thornton** visited the floor for the first time in his now 20-1-1 career, but it was only a brief lapse in a battle otherwise commanded by the local. Thornton, 163, Glassboro, NJ, faced Tim Williams, 163, San Diego, whose career had sputtered to 15-7-1 after a promising start. Despite a puncher's reputation, the visitor elected to circle and pepper the jab against the heavy-fisted Thornton. Tony's tender eyebrows were soon puffy, but he showed he's perfecting the art of patient, controlled pursuit over the wild gunning of the slugger. With Thornton's attack gaining potency in the third, he lapsed into a bit of wildness, missing a sweeping left hook. A chopping right behind the ear set him down, igniting the Philly fans, who never object to an exciting upset.

But it was only seconds to the bell, and Thornton made Williams pay as he belabored him with sharp left hooks in the subsequent round. In the fifth, the visitor was strung on the ropes, where rights underneath straightened him up into a vicious left hook that dropped him for a TKO at 2:55. The winner sagely reflected about arising from the knockdown, "You're glad to know you can do it, but you don't want to have to do it too often." Ref. Battle.

Of the headlining trio, Anthony Boyle, 130½, Kensington, was the only one to escape canvas, but may have had some help from the seeming stage fright of opponent Luis Rivera, 131, San Juan via N. Phila. In his local debut, Rivera brought in an 11-6-3 log, appeared tense and relied mostly on suckering Anthony into a countering left hook. He bounced a few off Boyle's neck, but in the third the local lad buried him with the suddenness of an assassination. A picture-pretty double left hook to ribs and chin planted Rivera for a KO at 2:40. Observed Boyle, "If he had gotten up, I think it would have just been a matter of time before I finished him. I was going to go right back downstairs." Ref, Joe O'Neil.

Phil Carter, 133, W. Phila., burst the bubble of Chris Organtini, 135, Norristown, who was TKO'd at 2:45 of the sixth and final. The crude brawler was thoroughly befuddled by Carter's nifty boxing skills and stood as if watching his own demise. In the fourth, Organtini was briefly his old self as Carter was punched and wrestled to the canvas. But Chris deprived himself of a knockdown and the advantage by slugging Phil while down, drawing a bawling-out from Battle. In the sixth, Organtini was beaten to the punch by a left hook, and felled. Upon arising, he could only freeze the action with a desperate bearhug until Battle called it over. Organtini went to 10-2 and Carter to 2-2-1.

Dave Tiberi, 164, New Castle, Del., similarly outboxed a sluggish Tony Blair, 168½, No. Phila., but without the fireworks. Tiberi won a unanimous decision in a dull six that produced more action between Dave's brothers and Tony's pals in the audience. Tiberi rose to 12-1-3 and Blair went 1-3-1. Ref, O'Neil.

In a sectional battle of debutees, Ed Mack, 179½, Mt. Airy, KO'd "Galactus Wiz," 174½, W. Oak Lane, at 0:34 of the fourth and final. Wiz had undoubtedly given more thought to a monicker than the game, turning runner after he met some resistance midway in the first. Ref, O'Neil.

Promoter: Peltz Boxing Promotions.

Mathmaker: J. Russell Peltz.

Attendance: 1,784, $31,000.

TV: USA Network.

Judges: Carol Polis, Ozzie Saale & Frank Martin.

Timekeeper: Tony Stanze.

Announcer: Hank Kropinski.

(10-6-88)

▶**PHILADELPHIA—Woodhaven Sports Center**—A popular club venue and the promotion's star performer both returned from facelifts, but only the arena got a welcome back. The fighter, Tony Martin, absorbed a controversial, but not entirely unjustified, split decision loss to Mike Brown in a bitterly fought eight. Coming back from a broken-jaw defeat that left him 15-2, Martin, 140, Phila., certainly wasn't gifted with any generous matchmaking. Although bringing in an unglamorous 9-15-2 record, Brown, 140, Phila., had been gathering momentum like a summer storm. The tough assignment didn't seem to bother Tony at the start, as the classy Martin looked like he'd never been away. Tony seemed almost too good for the skilled, but more proletarian Brown, as Martin executed the big plays that seemed to sweep the early rounds. But the gold was only gilt as a trickle of blood from the nose in the third portended. By the sixth, the favorite was bleeding from multiple wounds as the bout spun on its axis. Though game, Martin had lost his snap and was fighting for his life.

The peppery Brown tormented him to the bell, but seemed to fall short of Tony's fast start. Manny Altman voted correctly at 37-35 Martin, but Adalaide Tyndale and Al Morris both shocked the promotion with 37-36 Brown. The winner first candidly admitted he thought he'd lost, but later corrected, "I thought they were gonna steal it from me." Manager Leonard Pate theorized of Brown's many decision losses, "Is it because I'm a blind manager and they think I ain't nobody?" But groused the loser simply, "You know when you win. You don't need the judges. I felt like I was winning. When I heard that first score, I knew there was gonna be some stuff." Ref, Frank Cappuccino.

In the co-feature eight, ticket-seller Brian McGinley, 148, Kensington, TKO'd a familiar face in Bill Robinson, 150, Brooklyn, at 1:32 of the seventh. The agreeable Robinson, subbing for Bobby Joe Brown, failed to go the distance for the first time in three cracks at McGinley. The unpredictable visitor wasn't really there, but entertained the home fans by absorbing a vigorous beating. Difficult to kayo cleanly, Robinson was nearly broken in half by body shots before a booming right stunned him. After two knockdowns, ref John Carrol waved it over. McGinley became 16-5-2.

On yet another comeback, Roberto "Sugar" Mendez, 147, Phila., got some help from the judges in gaining a unanimous decision over returning Miguel Montero, 148, Phila., in a good six. Sugar's countering earned a quick lead, but he was hurt in the third and outboxed until staging a comeback in the final round. Ref, Cappuccino.

Sam Speach, 227, Phila., was too big for Lawrence Robinson (a/k/a Reginald Griffin), 194, Phila., who was discouraged into a KO at 3:08 of the first, scheduled four. Speach rose to 4-0. Ref, Carroll.

Keith Gant, 154, Phila., debuted with a meaningless "KO" of stiff Maurice Young (billed as "Maurice Davis"), 152½, Phila., who laid down at 1:21 of the first, scheduled four. Ref, Carroll.

Likewise, Eddie Dennis, 147, Phila., debuted to bury a cadaver in Glenn Cade, 147, Phila., at 0:47 of the first, scheduled four. Ref, Cappuccino.

Promoter: Vic Capcino, Ed Spicer (Cambria 5 Productions).

Matchmaker: Harold Moore.

Attendance: 500, $6,500 (est.).

Timekeeper: J.P. Mina.

Announcer: Hank Kropinski.

(10-14-88)

J.R. JOWETT

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS**—Omni-New Daisy Theatre — Millington's Reggie Barnes, 155, defended his Mid South Boxing's southern junior middleweight title against Jackson's Lester Yarbrough, 153½, when their 12-round bout ended in a draw.

In the first five rounds it was all Barnes as he controlled the pace of the fight. In Round Six, Barnes appeared to tire and Yarbrough started to land combinations. In the last six rounds the match went back and forth.

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Barnes told Thomas Harding of *The Commercial Appeal* he had to lose 22 pounds for the bout.

"He was a lot better than I thought he was," said Barnes. "But I waited too late to get ready."

Yarbrough said, "It was real close, but I thought I won the later rounds. I think he was tired. After he'd jab, he was running. He didn't want to exchange too much."

Memphian Greg "The Beale Street Hitman" Dickson, 154, improved to 18-1 when he stopped Cornelius Lowe, 155, Southaven, Mississippi, at 2:04 of the fourth in a scheduled six. Dickson was making his first appearance since May when he broke his right hand for the second time.

"I did everything I wanted to do," Dickson told Harding. "After a few punches, he lost all confidence as a fighter. He crumbled."

Memphian Marcellus Jackson, 166, stopped fellow Memphian Mark Allman, 161½, at 1:44 of the third of a scheduled six.

Jackson's Aubrey Beard, 160½, pounded out a four-round unanimous decision over Covington's Tyrone Meux, 157¼.

Shelbyville's Ken Hulsey, 155, earned a four-round unanimous decision over Willow Thomas, 149, of Greenville, Mississippi.

In the opener, Richard Moore, 144, Cleveland, Mississippi, banged out a four-round unanimous decision over Ken Louis of Greenville, Mississippi.

Promoters: Tom Harmon/Mid South Boxing Inc.
Matchmaker: Red Fortner.
Announcer: Sam Garland.
Judges: Gilbert Beam, Mark Acheson, James Perkins, Haywood Watts & Sonny Hanks.
Referees: Jim Kidd & Irving Tucker.
Timekeeper: Rod Cardone.
Physician: Jeff Hoover.
Attendance: 500 (est.).
(10-4-88)

MICHAEL GLENN

▶**BRISTOL**—Sports Arena—Lopez McGee, Nashville, scored an eight-round unanimous decision over middleweight Ken Heflin of Louisville.

Heflin, with much more experience, admitted that McGee deserved the decision.

"I didn't stay busy enough," Heflin said, adding, "He really can't hit very hard, but he hit me more than I hit him."

And that, to put it simply, is how the judges reached their decision in favor of McGee.

Bristol's popular heavyweight prospect, 205-pound Mark Carrier, continued to improve as he scored a first-round knockout of Louisville's Rocky Harris. Harris went down twice before succumbing to Carrier's furious attack.

Heavyweight Calvin Jones of Bristol posted a second-round TKO over Harold Overton of Nashville.

Kingsport's David Tate dropped a four-round decision to Jesse McGhee of Welch, West Virginia.

Light heavyweight Robert Clevenger scored a TKO over Frankie Hines of Lincolnton, North Carolina. Hines failed to answer the bell for Round Three.

Mike Belcher of Bristol earned a four-round unanimous decision by flooring Speedy Brown of Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Frankie Randall is scheduled to fight next at the all new Bristol Sports Arena — a beautiful facility that is rapidly becoming the center for professional boxing in the mid-south.

Referees: Deacon Bowers & Cotton Jackson.
Announcer: Chip Surber.

TEXAS

▶**CORPUS CHRISTI** — USBA junior welterweight champion **Frankie "Panchito" Warren**, 140, Texas, retained his title with a knockout of Covington, Tennessee's Chuck Glover, 139¼, at 37 seconds of the second round of a scheduled 12.

In a 10-round support, Texan **Lupe Suarez**, 134¼, knocked out Mexican Ramon Flores, 135¼, at 1:56 of the third round.

A scheduled six also ended early, Danny Trevino, 161, Texas, knocking out Rolando Morales, 158, Mexico, in just 1:04.

Ray Diaz, 155¼, made a successful pro debut with a four-round unanimous decision over Willie Kennedy, 154½, in a battle of Texans.

David Alvarado, 128, Texas, won a unanimous four-round decision over Mexican Leobardo Montalvo, 132½.

Richard Salazar, 122½, Texas, stopped Robert Garza, 121, Texas, at 2:58 of the first round of a scheduled four.

Promoter: Main Events.
Physician: Carlos Everett.
Referees: Barry Yeats & Dennis Collins.
Timekeeper: Rodolfo Rivera.
Judges: Lee McCowan, Chuck Bertani & David McCullough.
(10-6-88)

WEST VIRGINIA

▶**BECKLEY**—Raleigh County Armory—Before a legion of his hometown fans, Bert Gravley, 185, captured the West Virginia cruiserweight championship with a 12-round unanimous decision over defending titleholder Bobby Thomas.

Thomas, 187, Lochgelly, WV, dominated the first three stanzas with a strong body and head attack, but Gravley bounced back to sweep the final nine sessions by outboxing his foe.

Using the five-point must system, judge Tom Rapp scored the bout 58-51 while Joe Cooks and Larry Rogers tabbed identical 57-51 cards.

State welterweight champion Donald Gwinn and his next titular challenger Tommy Small each tuned up with early knockout wins, but the degree of difficulty encountered by each man greatly differed.

Gwinn, 152, Charleston, had to endure a surprisingly rough first round body attack by Louisville slugger Perry Adams, 154, before rallying back to stop Adams at the 2:47 mark of Round Three.

Small, 146, Sophia, WV, used body shots to register a comfortable second-round TKO over aggressive Marietta, Ohio resident Gus Brunoni, 144. Brunoni used a buzzsaw 100-punch-per-round attack against Small, but because few of his shots penetrated the local favorite's guard, Small was able to score a knockdown and a standing eight-count before the stoppage came at 2:38.

This card was originally scheduled for August 18, but the bouts had to be scrapped because Small, a big drawing card here, sustained a rib injury during training.

In an exciting 104-second shootout, Toronto, Canada's **Donnell Wingfield**, 181, knocked out infighter Chris Doolittle in a scheduled 10-round co-feature.

Utilizing a style that belied his surname, Doolittle, 178, engaged the touted Wingfield in a sustained toe-to-toe exchange. Wingfield's superior power and timing proved to be the difference as he decked Doolittle three times to end the bout.

Mark Carrier, 208, Bristol, TN, TKO'd Robert Brickenridge, 193, Louisville, at 2:14 of the second round of a scheduled six-round heavyweight bout.

An exciting heavyweight contest not involving world champion **Mike Tyson** is about as rare as a straight answer at a political debate. One such bout occurred between fireplugs Marvin Smith, a 5-10, 305-pounder based in Charleston, and Jessie McGhee, a 5-7, 235-pound heavyweight out of Welch, WV.

This one was a punchout from the beginning as McGhee effectively snapped his ramrod jab through Smith's guard while Smith looked to wear out his opponent by pushing him around the ring. Every punch thrown had "KNOCKOUT" written all over it.

The meteoric pace eventually proved too much for Smith, who ran out of gas midway through Round Three of the scheduled four-round contest. McGhee put together a series of punches that prompted the referee to stop the fight at 1:55 of the third.

Calvin Jones, 230, Bristol, TN, and Wes Smith, 290, Louisville, provided the throng with more typical heavyweight fare as Smith pounded out a boring four-round unanimous decision.

A four-round middleweight bout saw Robert Curry, 159, Beckley, unanimously decision Ernie White, 163, Charleston.

Erich Gliebe, *The Ring*'s Ohio correspondent, should be billed as "The Walloping Writer" as he notched his second knockout in two pro contests by TKO'ing Louisville's Chris Wall, 155, at 2:16 of the first round.

Gliebe, 158, Parma, Ohio, positioned Wall on the ropes, where two left-right combos had Wall practically out on his feet. As the Wall was crumbling, Gliebe hit his opponent with two more blows.

Checking out the action from ringside was West Virginia heavyweight champion "Slamming" Sammy Scaff.

This reporter wishes to thank Erich Gliebe and promoter Jerry Thomas for their contribution to this report.

Promoter: Jerry Thomas, West Virginia Sports Promotions.
Matchmaker: Jerry Thomas.
Judges: Tom Rapp, Al Green, Noah Solango, Larry Rogers & Joe Cooks.
Timekeeper: Matt Lowery.
Referees: Butch McNelly & Frank Hartenstein Jr.
Physician: Cirillo Villanueva.
(10-6-88)

LEE GROVES

CANADA

NOVA SCOTIA

▶**HALIFAX**—NABF cruiserweight champion **Bert Cooper** retained his title with a ninth-round stoppage of Tony "Kid" Morrison of Toronto.

A first-round winner over **Leon Spinks** in 1988, Morrison proved no match for the hard-hitting Philadelphia tough guy.

The Toronto fighter was elusive for eight rounds, but went down face-first in the ninth when a hard right connected. After going down twice more in the same round, Morrison saw the referee stop the fight at 2:59.

Cooper has made a habit of destroying Canadian fighters, having bombed out Willie de Wit and Cedric Parsons previously. "Smokin' " improved his record to 20-3-1 with 17 knockouts.

In a Canadian welterweight title fight, champion **Donovan Boucher** retained his title by stopping a game, but overmatched Pat McWilliams in the seventh round. A flurry of blows dropped McWilliams in the fifth and a cut eye worsened Williams' predicament. The ring physician had no choice but to stop the unequal contest at the 47-second mark of the seventh. Boucher, who sent **Shawn O'Sullivan** into retirement, was making the third defense of his title.

Ex-light heavyweight champion of Canada, Halifax's own **Roddie McDonald** made a comeback and showed he had lost nothing from his former power by destroying Saskatoon's Dave Fiddler in four rounds. Using a devastating body attack, McDonald dropped the Western slugger in the third before a wicked left hook to the midsection finished the contest at 1:40 of the following round.

After a long layoff, George Sponagle drew in his eight-rounder with Sheffield, England's Paul Jones. Sponagle

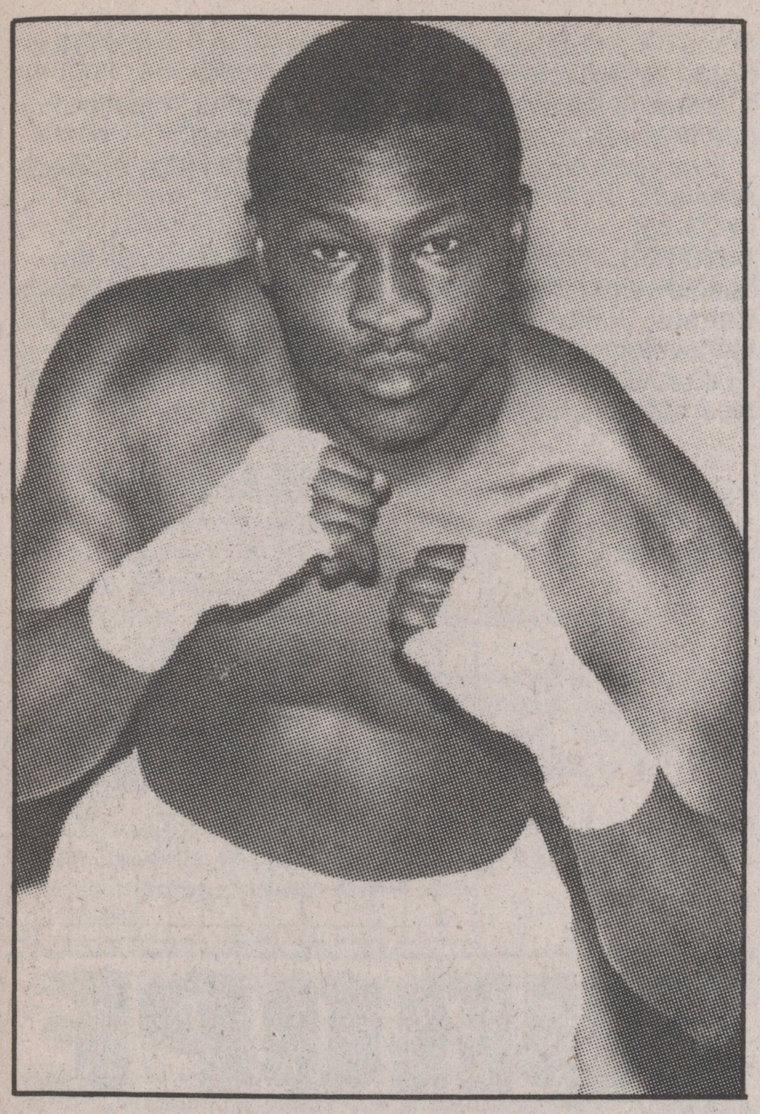
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B-A ENTERPRISES



Bert Cooper continued his domination of Canadian heavyweights with a ninth-round TKO over Tony Morrison in Halifax.

had fought some time ago on the West Coast and was rusty. Jones was making his first appearance in Canada. They are welterweights.

In the first prelim, two New Brunswick middleweights fought it out, Gary McIntyre knocking out consistent loser Bobby Green in the third. The only clean KO of the night entertained the fans while it lasted.

Promoter: Sonny MacPhee.

Attendance: 3,500.

(9-27-88)

MICHEL GLADU

MEXICO

FEDERAL DISTRICT

▶**MEXICO CITY**—La Arena Coliseo—Felipe "Matador" Torres, 138¾, scored an easy TKO over aggressive Felix Solano, also 138¾, at 1:00 of the second round of a scheduled 10-round main event.

Solano, a recent knockout loser to Mexican 140-pound champion Rodolfo Batta, started the bout in high gear as he continually forced Torres to backpedal from his looping left-right combinations. In the final 15 seconds of a round that lasted a full 35 seconds past the three-minute limit, Fuentes lashed out with a half-dozen one-twos that dropped Solano along the ropes. The referee first signalled no knockdown, then led Solano to the corner after the bell belatedly rang.

Solano appeared unhurt as the second round began as he connected with a strong right to Fuentes' chin. But the "Matador" quickly regained the advantage and ended the fight with another pair of left-rights, a right and a cuffing left hook behind Solano's ear.

In a 10-round co-feature, Octavio Ruiz, 114, upped his ledger to 40-8-1 by TKO'ing prospect Felipe "Tequila" Torres, 114½, at 1:45 of the sixth round. With the loss, Torres fell to 25-2-1. The bout was a chessmatch throughout the first four rounds with Torres gaining a slight edge by slipping numerous rights past Ruiz's guard. After an extended on-the-ropes exchange in Round Five, Ruiz was able to achieve checkmate in the sixth by closing Torres' right eye and landing enough unanswered rights to prompt a stoppage.

Martin Perez, 118¾, scored a dramatic one-punch knockout over Jose Aguirre, 116, at 2:05 of the fourth round of a six-round contest. Aguirre swept through the first three-and-a-half rounds with his aggressive counter-punching, but Perez scored a bulls-eye with a full-lever-age right uppercut to the chin. Noticing Aguirre's unseeing eyes, the referee immediately terminated the bout.

Joel Luna, 118, a protege of former bantamweight great **Carlos Zarate**. posted an off-the-deck KO over Rafael Torres, 118½, at 30 seconds of Round Two of a slated four-round bout. Torres scored a flash knockdown halfway through the first round with a pretty left-right to the face, but the unhurt Luna staved off Torres' follow-up efforts. Luna quickly turned the tables in Round Two when he decked Torres with a left-right of his own. The right opened a nasty cut inside Torres' mouth and after an examination by the ringside physician, the fight was stopped.

In a wildly exciting brawl, southpaw Miguel Banda, 110½, came from behind to TKO Javier Ugalde, 105½, at 1:22 of Round Four of a scheduled six-round matchup.

Super-aggressive Irineo Torres, 133½, halted outgunned Javier Lopez, 113½, at 45 seconds of the second round of a scheduled six.

(9-3-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—La Arena Revolucion—Good-looking prospect Gregorio Vargas, 123¾, notched his fifth knockout in five pro fights by blasting out Rafael Briseno, 123¼, in just 105 seconds of a scheduled eight-round main event.

This was Vargas' first eight-rounder, but that fact had little significance as he strung together beautiful combinations to Briseno's head and body. A sharp left-right, two right-left hook combos and a brutal series of straight rights caused the stoppage. Briseno demonstrated a durable chin but nothing more as he dropped to 12-3-1 with eight KOs.

Gerardo Cedillo, 133¾, stopped Miguel Morales, 134, at 40 seconds of the second round of a slated eight-round contest. In the first round, Cedillo chose to wait out his circling opponent before loading up the heavy artillery. Morales caught Cedillo coming in with a snappy right to the chops, but that proved to be his only highlight as Cedillo ended the night with a well-timed right.

Aaron Zarate, 134¼, effectively utilized his strong right hand in scoring a six-round unanimous decision over iron-chinned Jesus Capistran, 131½. Zarate's bombs frequently bounced off Capistran's jaw, but he was unable to floor the gallant Capistran until the final seconds of the fight.

Antonio Garcia, 120¼, quickly disposed of Jose Ronses, 119, at 40 seconds of the first round of a six-round go. A short right cross, the second punch of a three-punch combo, provided Garcia with the KO win.

Carlos Escobar, 118¼, posted a four-round unanimous decision over Adrian Parma, 118¾. Parma was able to make every round interesting and competitive with his fighting spirit and occasionally effective combinations, but was consistently beaten to the punch because of Escobar's slightly faster hands.

In a scheduled four-round tiff, Angel Jiminez, 125½, halted southpaw Jesus Galicia, 125¾, at 2:20 of the third round.

(9-4-88)

▶**MEXICO CITY**—La Arena Coliseo—In one of the most stupendously boring all-Mexican matches of all-time, Manuel Robinales, 114¾, edged out a majority 10-round decision over Fernando "Candelita" Varguez, 115.

The sparseness of action was such that even the ringside judges had a hard time picking a winner. The scoring (98-97, 100-97 and 99-99) indicates they picked a combined total of *20* rounds even, which establishes this fight as a candidate for the all-time record for indecision among judges. But they cannot be faulted for their scoring because even though the fighters tried to win the match, their lay-back counterpunching styles simply did not mesh.

Robinales achieved his margin of victory by landing effective jabs and occasionally flurrying in the final 10 seconds of several rounds. The southpaw Varguez, a recent loser to former WBA junior flyweight champion Joey Olivo, failed to launch any significant counter-attacks.

Fortunately, there was much more entertaining action on the undercard. Gregorio Castañeda, 110⅞, efficiently dispatched Esteban "Dinamita" Ayala, 112⅞, at 2:02 of the second round of a 10-round co-feature. The taller, more scientific Castañeda effectively countered Ayala silly with left-right combos and sudden left hooks, but to Ayala's credit, he fired back furiously every time he was hurt. Midway through the second session, Castañeda launched the final flurry with a right-left hook combination, a right that stiffened Ayala's legs, and a left to the chin that finished the job.

Free-swinging brawler Eduardo "Lalo" Torres, 118¾, out-strengthened boxer Felipe Gutierrez, 118½, with a TKO win at 1:56 of the fifth round of a 10-round go. Gutierrez began the bout well by landing right crosses virtually at will due to his vastly superior hand speed. However, "Lalo" gradually turned the fight into a street war, beginning in Round Two by picking up his punch rate. Torres' draining attack eventually wore out Gutierrez, who by the fifth round was unable to keep his hands up. Seeing this, the referee stopped the fight.

Francisco Bernal, 145, punched Agustin Resendiz, 145¾, into a third-round TKO at the 1:21 mark. It was scheduled for eight rounds.

Rosario Llano, 134⅞, relentlessly battered Manuel Alvarez, 134¼, in a frenzied punchout that ended at 1:31 of the third round of a four-round bout.

(9-10-88)

PUERTO RICO

▶**GUAYNABO**—Chris Diaz had just scored a knockout over Tommy Valoy and figured to give former WBA junior featherweight titleholder **Julio Gervacio** a tough test.

But Gervacio proved too strong after four rounds of give-and-take, forcing referee Ismael Fernandez to call a halt with Gervacio a TKO winner.

Diaz surprised with his early surge of power, but Gervacio was equal to the task and met his man blow for blow. It was rumored Gervacio was lax in his training and had become the victim of the good life and Diaz may have felt early pressure would be too much for him. But even though he connected with authority to hold a slight lead after two whirlwind rounds, Diaz suffered a bad cut over his right eye in the third and was an easy mark for Gervacio's rapier-like left jab and short right uppercuts in the fourth. When the bell ended the fourth, Diaz was in such bad shape the referee would not allow him to come out for the fifth.

The Dominican was particularly pleased because he was able to avenge the defeat of his countryman Valoy and he is looking toward a possible title match against WBA titleholder **Juan Jose Estrada**. Gervacio is 19-1, the only defeat a controversial title loss to Venezuelan **Bernardo Pinango**, who, after that bout, was accused by the Puerto Rico commission of drug use. Though the accusation was not upheld by the WBA bigwigs, quartered in Venezuela, Pinango would later be jailed in Florida for drug use shortly after losing his title to Estrada.

In an eight-round semifinal, welterweight Danny Garcia returned and scored a decision over Chicago middleweight Norberto Bueno. Garcia, who had been sidelined

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by a car accident, did not look good in improving to 19-5.

In another eight, featherweight Angel Vargas, 10-2, scored an easy four-round KO over Americo Rivera, 11-6.

In a six-round battle between unbeaten lightweights, Angel Vazquez survived an early knockdown to score a sensational KO over German Diaz in the fourth. Angel went in 6-0-1, while Diaz was 6-0. Both are fine prospects and it was too bad they were matched this early in their careers.

In another six, welter Onasis Rivera, 5-1, scored a second-round KO over Luis de Jesus.

Flyweight Wilfredo Vargas, 4-1, scored a very unpopular four-round decision over Julian Gonzalez, 1-1. Vargas' dirty tactics did not go over well with the fans.

The remaining bouts were four-rounders in the flyweight class.

Daniel Jiminez outpointed Nelson Matos.

Hector Orozco outpointed Rey Vazquez.

Jose Camacho won a split decision over Jose de Jesus.

(10-6-88)

▶**CAGUAS—Juan Carazo** earned a shot at WBC super flyweight titleholder **Gilberto Roman** by scoring a 12-round decision over ex-titleholder **Santos Laciar**, *The Ring*'s seventh-ranked bantamweight.

Because of his reputation as a heavy hitter, it was felt Carazo's only chance of winning was by knockout. But he surprised the experts by actually outfoxing his cunning opponent known for his masterful exhibitions in the manly art of self defense.

The only unpleasant moment came when the decision was announced as the Argentine judge was a little off base, scoring 115-114 for Laciar. He was overruled by the other judge and referee Arthur Mercante, who each favored Carazo 117-112. *The Ring* scored 115-113, Carazo.

Laciar made it close, but failed to take command. His attacks were sporadic and with little enthusiasm. His much younger foe improved to 24-1 by punching with greater frequency. There was nothing close to a knockdown. Laciar did suffer a slight cut over his left eye in the seventh, while Carazo remained totally unmarked and appeared fresh at the finish.

The semifinal 10 saw lightweight Orlando Fernandez score a knockout over highly regarded Atilano Quinones in the seventh round. Quinones started well, but Fernandez proved too strong down the stretch.

Welterweight Jose Martinez surprised when he knocked out highly regarded Juan Rosario at 2:58 of the fourth round.

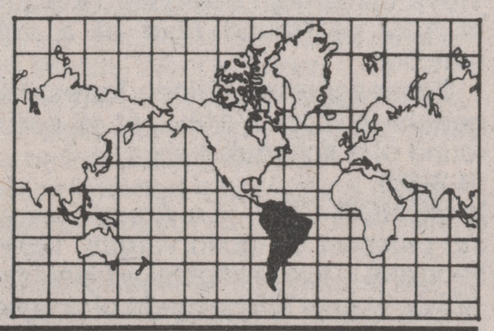
Flyweight Cesar Acevedo outpointed Herminio Diaz in four.

Lightweight Modesto Rivera scored a split decision over Johnny Rivera in four.

(10-8-88)

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SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA

▶**BARRANQUILLA**—La Campana Restaurant—Francisco Tamara, 112, decisioned Jorge Hurtado, 110, over four rounds.

Edison Martinez, 148, TKO'd Jorge Calderon, 146, at 2:51 of the fifth of a scheduled six.

New local sensation, 17-year-old Jimmy Garcia, 127, outpointed veteran Carlos Garcia, also 127, in six rounds.

Manuel Salas, 140, decisioned Carlos Monsalve, also 140, in six rounds. Salas got a five-minute rest after a fifth-round foul.

Eder Gonzalez, 146, knocked out Edilberto Villarreal, 149, at 2:31 of the second of a scheduled six.

Promoter: Nuevo Pugilismo.

Referees: Migdonio Mercado, Manuel Rodriguez, Luis A. Estrada & Alberto Ferreira.

Attendance: 350 (est.).

(9-2-88)

▶**CARTAGENA**—Cartagena de Indias Bullring—In a dismal match, local featherweight Luis "Chicanero" Mendoza TKO'd Jaime Castellon, who didn't respond for the fourth round of the scheduled 10.

Mendoza is 22-1 with 13 KOs. Castellon is 6-6-1 with two no contests.

Juan Poloperez, ranked first in the IBF's junior bantamweight class, TKO'd Efrain Betancourt in the third round for his 14th KO in 25 wins.

Flyweight Oscar Cantillo stopped Julio Coronell in five.

Adolfo Caballero gained the Colombian middleweight championship with a 10-round decision over Horacio Perez.

Featherweight Rafael Zuniga outpointed Alfonso de Leon in six.

Antonio Montero won over Arnulfo Berrio when the loser quit in the fourth.

Flyweight Yamil Caraballo stopped Remberto Munoz in the third.

(9-3-88)

▶**BOGOTA**—El Salitre Coliseum—Hernan Gutierrez KO'd Carlos Mantilla in the second of a scheduled 10 to gain the vacant Colombian junior lightweight title.

(9-16-88)

▶**BARRANQUILLA**—Humberto Perea Coliseum—Former bantamweight contender and ex-Colombian idol **Bernardo Caraballo** returned to box a one-round exhibition with WBC bantamweight titleholder **Miguel "Happy" Lora** in a charity show for the benefit of those in Cordoba and Atlantico who lost harvests due to heavy rains and flooding.

Lora also boxed two rounds with Noel Cogollo and Alvaro Bohorquez. **Rafael Pineda** boxed a four-round exhibition with Ismael Pineda, Agustin Garcia boxed four exhibition rounds with Roger Guevara and WBA welterweight titleholder **Tomas Molinares** went four with Diosmel Anaya.

In non-exhibition action, bantamweight Atenor Solar made his pro debut, knocking out veteran Primitivo Rodriguez in two rounds.

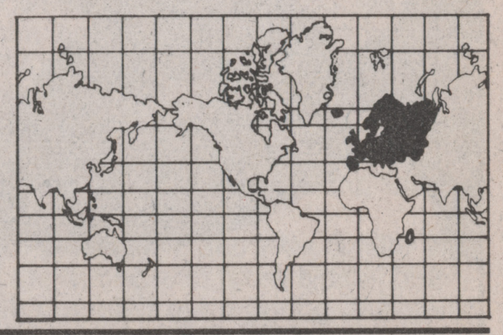
Omar Gonzalez also made his debut, outpointing Juan Gomez in a four-round bantam bout.

Everyone, including the fighters and media, paid admission.

(9-23-88)

▶**NOTES:** The current Colombian champions are—Middleweight: Adolfo Caballero; Welterweight: Gilberto Barreto; Junior Welterweight: Eder Gonzalez; Junior Lightweight: Hernan Gutierrez; Bantamweight: Carlos Rocha; Super Flyweight: Alvaro Mercado; Flyweight: Noel Cogollo; Mini Flyweight: Uriel Londono.

LUIS A. GONZALEZ V.



EUROPE

FINLAND

▶**LAUKAA**—UKK Halli—**Tarmo Uusivirta**, Jyvaskyla, Finland, 169¼, fought for the first time since joining **Angelo Dundee's** stable, stopping Spaniard Gonzalo Menco, 164¾, in the fourth of a scheduled eight.

Menco visited the canvas in a tentative first round, but it was ruled correctly a slip by referee Erkki Meronen. Menco turned aggressor in the second session, throwing lead uppercuts. But Uusivirta got his timing in the third round and landed stiff jabs and thudding rights on his pursuing opponent.

From the start of the fourth, Uusivirta began to punish Menco with hard body shots, which brought Menco's hands down. Uusivirta then landed a left hook-right cross combo that dropped the weary Menco for the 10-count.

The 31-year-old Uusivirta now wants a crack at the IBF or WBA super middleweight title. He surely deserves one.

Tom Heiskanen, Turku, Finland, captured the vacant Nordic countries' welterweight title with a split decision over Swedish-based Yugoslavian Mille Markovic. It was a dirty battle between short, strong brawlers. Heiskanen earned points with his jab, but far too often was forced to fight inside where there was a lot of wrestling, but not much punching. Both were pushed or thrown to the canvas several times, but there were no official knockdowns. The referee deducted one point from Heiskanen for hitting on the break and one from Markovic for kicking. Heiskanen fought with a broken rib, which may explain his sluggish performance, but still raised his credentials to 4-0 with one KO, while Markovic fell to 1-1-1, the victory coming by knockout.

Sweden's Roland Eriksson stretched his unbeaten string to five by unanimously outpointing England's Sid Conteh in a lively, hard-fought light heavyweight eight.

Debuting heavyweights Peter Holm, Sweden, and Istvan Levai, Hungary, posed their way to an eight-round draw. Both fight out of the same Stockholm gym and neither looked eager to win.

Promoter: Aarno Luoma.

(9-11-88)

PETRI PAIMANDER

FRANCE

▶**CORBEIL-ESSONE**—Defending his European middleweight title, **Chris Tiozzo** of France stopped Spain's Alfonso Redondo in the seventh round of a scheduled 12.

Redondo, 154¾, took a standing eight in the third round, was dropped and cut on the right eyebrow in the fourth and took another count in the fifth before the referee finally halted matters in the seventh over Redondo's protest.

Tiozzo, who weighed 159¾, has won all 21 starts, 14 by knockout.

On the undercard, American Aaron Davis, 151½, outpointed France's Daniel Bicchieray, 149, by scores of 79-75, 77-76 and 78-76.

Making his first appearnce in almost four years, Franck Tiozzo, older brother of Chris, drew in a heavyweight six with Johnny Held of the Netherlands.
(9-19-88)

▶**NOGENT-SUR-MARNE**—Trailing badly, Venezuela's **Jose Sanabria** retained his IBF junior featherweight title with a 10-round TKO of French challenger Fabrice Benichou.

Benichou led at the time of the stoppage, 89-82, 89-85 and 87-85.

Though Benichou, 121¼, had constructed a good edge, Sanabria, 119¾, had done damage to Benichou's left eye as early as the second round. The eye, with cuts above and below, eventually closed in the 10th, causing the stoppage.

In an eight-round bout on the undercard, lightweight Jean-Baptiste Mendy knocked out Venezuela's Jose Rojas in three rounds.
(9-26-88)

▶**PARIS**—Stade Pierre De Coubertin — Comebacking **Said Skouma** knocked out American Kevin Brazier in the third round.

Skouma, 156½, was hurt in the second, but regrouped to drop Brazier, 155, twice before the session ended. A clash of heads cut Skouma as the third began, but he floored Brazier twice more, the second time for good, though Brazier did rise.

French middleweight champion Andre Mongelema, 162¼, won a unanimous decision over Paul Tehoue of Cameroon in eight rounds. The scores read 79-75 and 78-75 (twice).
(10-3-88)

GERMANY

▶**BERLIN**—The new season got underway here with a small show that drew about 600 paid admissions.

The seven-bout card almost didn't get started when two local matadors cried off, leaving the two main bouts flat. **Ralf Rocchigiani** was cut training and Mike Wissenbach was hospitalized.

Ex-European welterweight champion **Jose Varela** substituted, but his form was such that he made heavy weather of a middleweight affair with local-based Briton Horace Fleary, eventually winning a decision. Varela was an overwhelming favorite to win in quick time and, knowing he was not in the best of shape, Varela tried to wrap it up early. He almost did, dismantling Fleary in the opening round with a left hook that dropped the Brit for eight.

Though he also fell through the ropes in the fifth frame, the ex-British soldier was still trading punches at the final bell of the eight-rounder.

Mario Dito, a 23-year-old Italian middleweight who had boxed about 30 bouts for a local-based amateur club, had a disastrous pro debut, being disqualified for hitting his German opponent, Teddy Jansen, while Jansen was on the canvas in Round Two.

German light heavyweight Manfred Saffran, also making his pro debut, came up short in a four-round decision loss to Yugoslav Mladen Grubesic.

Mario Dimitroff, who ruled the world in kick-boxing in 1986-87, had won his first two pro bouts but was sensationally KO'd in his third outing by German-based Jamaican Owen Reece. Dimitroff bled from a cut left eyebrow, but was allowed to continue until Reece caught him in the fourth round of the middleweight match.

The work rate of both middleweight Salvador Yanez and welterweight Senturk Ozdemir is phenomenal and both look to be thoroughbreds for the new season. The 24-year-old Yanez, from Chile, but now a German citizen, stayed perfect in 11 fights, stopping Yugoslav Mehmet Zolic, the towel being thrown in in the fifth.

Ozdemir, with two losses in 11 starts, decisioned Yugoslav Tretmir Jandrek over four frames.

In an all-German heavyweight affair, Walter Eberling and Bernd Kulle shared points over six.

Promoter: Boxing Team Berlin.

Referees: Uwe Uhlmann & Werner Kasimir.
(9-16-88)

▶**NOTES:** Ex-German heavyweight Richard Grupe died after a stroke at the age of 72. On May 10, 1947, Grupe fought Heid ten Hoff for the domestic heavyweight title with yours truly and 4,000 others in attendance at Hamburg's Victoria Sports Ground. Grupe was KO'd in the third. Grupe KO'd Spain's Paco Bueno in the fifth round with a right to the chin in July, 1949. That was the first international bout staged in Germany after the war. Grupe eventually took up professional wrestling and played small parts in films, having moved to Los Angeles, where he died.

JACK TREE

ITALY

▶**MILAN**—Britain's Rocky Lawlor, who had gone the distance with former WBA junior featherweight titleholder **Loris Stecca**, could not do the same against Stecca's younger brother, former Olympic gold medalist **Maurizio Stecca.**

Lawlor was floored three times in the second round before the referee stopped the bout.

Lawlor, who weighed 125¾, lost for the 16th time in his last 19 fights. Stecca was prepping for an IBF featherweight title fight against Mexico's **Jorge Paez.**

Venezuelan bantamweight Santiago Caballero outpointed Britain's Billy Barton over eight rounds.

Italian flyweight Salvatore Fanni stopped England's David Afan Jones in the third of a scheduled six.
(10-6-88)

UNITED KINGDOM

▶**SOUTHEND**—Garroas Suite—Winston Wray, 158, Blackfriars, outpointed Gary Pemberton, 161, Cardiff, referee Nick White awarding Wray the verdict after six twos.

Gary King, 126, Luton, stretched his unbeaten run to five by outpointing African Kid Sumaila, 130, over six twos. Referee White.

Rocky Reynolds, 156, Swansea, outpointed Jim McDonagh, 156, Hastings, over six twos.

Chris Haydon, 160½, Greenwich, stopped Tony Cloak, 156, Bournemouth, referee Dave Parris intervening in Round Five of a scheduled six twos.
(6-7-88)

▶**ST. HELIER**—Fort Regent Complex—This was the first show in the Channel Islands for around 30 years and only 400 turned up in a stadium that holds 1,600.

John Westgarth, 215½, Hartlepool, outpointed Welshman Andy Gerrard, 216½, referee Dave Parris scoring it 79½-77½ after eight.

Del Bryan, Nottingham, outpointed Jimmy Thornton, 153, Sheffield, referee Paddy Sower casting it 60-57 after six twos.

Michael Armstrong, 124½, Manchester, beat debutant Gamel Corbett, 130, London, who was disqualified by referee Sower for persistent holding in the sixth and final (two-min.) round.

Dean Dickenson, 142, Sheffield, stopped Henry (brother of Michael) Armstrong, referee Parris intervening in Round Four of a scheduled six twos after Armstrong had been floored.
(8-9-88)

▶**STOKE ON TRENT**—Kings Hall—Tunisian Kamel Bou-Ali won the WBC international super featherweight title by beating Welshman Robert Dickie, referee Armand Krief intervening after 2:33 of Round Six in a scheduled 12 when Dickie sustained a severe cut by the left eye. The referee first called in the ringside doctor.

Unlucky for Dickie, as all three judges had him ahead on points at the time. The injury required 12 stitches, and his manager Colin Breen alleged that illegal use of the head had caused it. Dickie had been champion for only five months.

Johnny Nelson, 191¼, Sheffield, didn't lose a round in outpointing Welshman Andy Gerrard, 215¾, referee John Coyle scoring it 80-76½ after eight.

Welsh middleweight champion Denys Cronin, 172, stopped Paul McCarthy, 172½, Southampton, referee Coyle calling a halt at 1:18 of Round Four in a scheduled eight after McCarthy had been down.

Ian Midwood-Tate, 152, Bradford, outpointed Spencer Alton, 155, Derby, referee O'Connor scoring it 60-57 after six twos. Alton was down in Round Two.

Debutant James Hunter, 138, Middlesbrough, outpointed Dean Dickenson, 139, referee O'Connor casting it 59½-58 after six twos. A crowd-pleaser that brought nobbins from appreciative fans.

Peter Elliott, 163, Burton, drew with Sean Stringfellow, 168, Worksop, over four threes. Referee O'Connor.
(8-31-88)

▶**GLASGOW**—Edmiston Club—Scottish bantam champion Donnie Hood, 121½, stopped Gerry McBride, 122½, who was retired by his corner at the end of round seven with injuries to his nose and left eye. Hood looked comfortably in front.

Joe Mullen, 122, Irvine, outpointed Gordon Shaw, 124, Glasgow, referee Arnold Bryson scoring it 60-58½ after six. An exciting bout, bringing £100 in nobbins.

Wull Strike, 120½, Irvine, drew with Des Gargano, 122, Manchester, over six.

Debutant Jye Donaldson, Irvine, 200½, stopped Ted Shaw, 238, Manchester, referee Bryson counting him out at 1:14 of the opening round in a scheduled four twos after he had been down twice previously.

Debutant Tony Dore, 130, London, now living in Irvine, outpointed Neil Leggett, 134, Peterborough, referee Rafferty casting it 59-58 after six twos.

Mick Mulcaha, 134, Manchester, outpointed John Walker, 136, Kilmarnock, referee Bryson casting it 39½-39 after four twos.
(9-5-88)

▶**LONDON**—Royal Lancaster Hotel—Scot John Bennie, Hurlford, 133, survived a last-round knockdown to draw with Chubby Martin, Islington, 137, over eight. Referee Mike Jacobs.

Steve Pollard, 136, Hull, survived eye injuries to outpoint Mike Chapman, 130½, referee Jacobs scoring it 79-78 after eight.

Ian Honeywood, Bexleyheath lightweight, outpointed Tony Borg, 134, Cardiff, scoreline 59½-58½ after six twos.

Michael Driscoll, 143, Portsmouth, kayoed Mike Russell, 143, Plymouth, at 0:48 of Round Two in a scheduled four.
(8-30-88)

▶**BRISTOL**—Thornbury Leisure Centre—Paul Moylett, 133, Bristol, outpointed Robert Smythe, 132, Swansea, referee Donald Lewis scoring it 59½-58½ after six.

Andre Marcel Cleak, 148, Swindon, stopped Paul Mason, 143½, referee Nick White intervening at 1:47

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of Round Two in a scheduled four twos after Mason had been down twice. Both were making their debuts.

Mick Oliver, 149½, Cefn Hengoed, stopped debutant Dom Barry, 152, Oxford, referee Lewis calling a halt at 0:59 of Round Two after Barry had been floored.

Debutant Thomas Henry, 177, drew with Kevin Roper, 181, over six. Referee White.

Debutant Darren Pilling, 167½, Burnley, stopped Malcolm Davies, 150½, referee White intervening at 1:50 of Round Five after Davies had been down four times.
(9-3-88)

▶**READING**—Rivermead Leisure Centre—Gary Stretch, 153¼, St. Helens, won the British light middleweight title by outpointing champion Gary Cooper, 152¼, referee Adrian Morgan calling it 118½-115½ after 12.

It was some fight and worthy of a championship contest. It was the first time Stretch had gone 12 rounds, and he proved too young and too skillful for the gutsy Cooper, who was down in Round Two and again in Round Five, yet clawed his way back each time in commendable fashion.

Both sustained injuries. Cooper was cut by the left eye and the mouth, and Stretch's nose looked out of shape. The new champion obviously has a great future. As for the former holder, he lost like a champion, my idea of a true professional.

Dutchman Pedro van Raamsdonk, 172½, won the European light heavyweight title by beating champion Tom Collins, Britain, 174, referee Jean Deswert intervening at 0:22 of Round Seven in a scheduled 12 when Collins was cut by the left eye and the doctor advised the stoppage. The Dutchman was in front on the cards of all three officials.

George Collins, 148, beat Venezuelan Juan Rondon, 147½, referee Adrian Morgan calling a halt at 2:03 of Round Five in a scheduled eight when substitute Rondon was cut by the right eye. Collins looked comfortably in front.

James Oyebola, 216½, Paddington, kayoed Terry Lewis, 219, Manchester, at 0:26 of Round One with a right to the jaw. Lewis came in as a substitute.

Roy Rowland, 148½, survived a fourth-round knockdown to outpoint Kelvin Mortimer, 144, Trebanog, referee Nick White scoring 59½-57½ after six.

Wayne Ellis, 157½, Cardiff, outpointed Kevin Hayde, referee White casting it 59½-57½ after six.
(9-7-88)

▶**GLASGOW**—St. Andrews Sporting Club—Alex Dickson, 141, Larkhall, returned after seven month's inactivity to easily outpoint Lennie Gloster, 141½, Peterborough, referee Billy Rafferty scoring it 80-76½ after eight.

Jim Kelly, 149, Wishaw, outpointed Ray Taylor, 149, Great Harwood, referee Len Mullen casting it 59-58½ after six.

Steve Hogg, 148, St. Helens, beat Louie Antune, 145, America, who was retired by his corner with a dislocated shoulder at the end of Round Three. Referee Mullen. Antune is a midshipman stationed in Scotland, and it was his pro debut.
(9-12-88)

▶**DONCASTER**—Adwick Leisure Centre—Neil Malpass, 208¾, South Elmshall, outpointed Paul Sheldon, Alfreton, 208, over six, in a heavyweight bout. Ref Micky Vann scored it 60-57½.



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Featherweight Peter Gabbitus, 134, Doncaster, returned after a long absence to survive a knockdown to outpoint Steve Winstanley, 133, Chorley, over six. Referee Phil Cowsill scored it 59-58 after six.

Tony Lawrence, 164, Kings Lynn, knocked out Mark Holden, 159, Mexborough, at 1:24 of Round Four in a scheduled eight twos. Referee Vann.

Nigel Bradley, 137, Sheffield, beat David Bacon, 142, Alfreton, referee Vann intervening at 1:28 of Round Five in a scheduled six twos when Bacon was cut by the left eye.

Mick Murray, Doncaster, 156, stopped Eddie Collins, 157¾, Peterborough, referee Cowsill calling a halt at 0:57 of Round Two in a scheduled six twos.

Phil Lashley, 122, Birmingham, outpointed Ronnie Stephenson, 121, Doncaster, referee Cowsill casting it 59½-58½ after six twos. This reversed a defeat two years earlier.
(9-9-88)

▶**NORTHAMPTON**—Jack Solomons Sporting Club—Gary Maxwell, 128, Nottingham, outpointed Shane Porter, 129¾, Kettering, referee John Keane scoring 80-77 after eight twos.

Mick Markie, Kettering, returned after two years inactivity to draw with Tony Smith, 121½, Burnley. Referee Larry Thompson.

Ian Midwood-Tate, 153¼, beat debutant Dave Andrews, Merthyr, 152¼, the bout being stopped at the end of Round Four in a scheduled six twos when Andrews was cut by the right eye.

Shaun Cummins, 158½, Leicester, knocked out Seamus Casey, 156, Alfreston, at 0:36 of Round Three in a scheduled six twos. Referee Thompson.
(9-12-88)

RON OLVER

THE MIDDLE EAST

ISRAEL

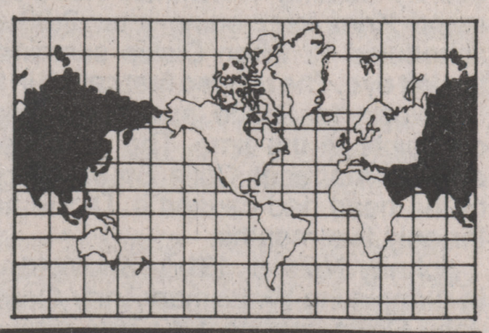
▶**TEL AVIV**—In the first professional boxing show in this country in 26 years, Continental American cruiserweight titleholder **Michael Greer** rallied to defend his crown with an eight-round knockout of Indiana's Rick Enis.

Enis started Quickly, but Greer, of Memphis, floored him in the sixth round. In the seventh, Enis was dropped by a low blow and was given time to recover by referee Sid Nathan, who officiated using an Israeli license after his retirement by the BBBC.

When action resumed, Enis nailed Greer with a low blow and another rest ensued, with Nathan warning both that another foul would mean disqualification. Later in the round, Enis was knocked out of the ring and given 20 seconds to recover.

Enis fought well in the eighth until Greer finally floored him for the count late in the frame.

In a supporting bout, American Walt Muhammad stopped light heavyweight Pat Strachan of the Bahamas in five rounds.
(9-28-88)



THE ORIENT

INDONESIA

▶**KEDIRI**—Little Pono, the Indonesian Commission's second-ranked flyweight, 122¾, appeared about 10 pounds heavier than his class, but decisioned Crang Aking, 121, in eight.

Suroso, 132, kayoed Achmad Boy, 132½, in the fourth round in a scheduled six.

Ridwan, 129¾, outpointed Karel Edeng, 127, in six.

Bonas, 122½, decisioned Kit Sitinjak, 125½, in six.

M. Wahit, 117, won from Agus, 118, in six.

Ackat, 111¼, outscored Barry, 110¾, in six.

Emanuel, 110½, decisioned Nawang Boy, 110¾, in six.

Buyong Kin, 111¾, won from Dewa Fortuna, 112, in six.

Dipo Saloko, 107, outpointed Rudy Ardin, also 107, in six.

Budi Lese, 104½, won over Arief (not John Arief, the WBC international champ), 104¾, in six.

Promoter: Atmadi, BA.
(8-6-88)

▶**MALING**—M. Noor, the IBC's #6 junior lightie, won a decision over Taurus Clay in eight.

Akriyono Suryaman decisioned Nyoman in a bantamweight eight.

Adam Suwaji, the IBC's #2 featherweight, won from Nurcholis in eight.

Mansurin beat Barton on points in a welterweight six.

Feather Sadikun knocked out Saiful in the third round of a scheduled six.

Darmaji polished off Mat Yani in the opening canto of a scheduled bantam six.

Juhari outpointed Hamim in a flyweight six.

Basuki stopped Sandi Michael in the second round of a flyweight six.

Promoter: Hendry Susanto.
(8-6-88)

▶**SURABAYA**—Gelona November 10 Stadium—**Elyas Pical,** the IBF junior bantamweight champ, didn't impress the crowd, but dropped much taller Korean Ki-Chang Kim with a devastating left in the sixth round and was awarded a split but well-received decision in 12 dull rounds.

They fought too cautiously, clinched too often and exchanged too few punches throughout the contest. The 30-year-old lefty, Pical, was aiming to counter the lanky challenger, 26, but Kim also showed a waiting game. Elly scored with a bit more and better blows to clinch the victory. Scores: Esmeraldo Medroso (Philippines) 117-112, Pical; Jopie Limahelu (Indonesia) 118-110, Pical; Don Mark (Australia) 110-108, Kim.

Pical bettered his mark to 17-3 with 11 kayoes. Kim fell to 17-5-5 with 10 knockouts.

Wongso Indrajit, Indonesian bantamweight champ, scored a third-round TKO over Dae-Yong Park, Korea, in a scheduled 10.

Udin Baharuddin, the WBA's 10th-ranked flyweight, drew with Little Baguio, Philippines, in 10.

Nurhuda, the WBC's international super bantamweight champ, easily knocked out Japanese Tetsuji Kase in the fifth round of a scheduled 10.

Korean Yong-Kang Chang won a unanimous decision over Kay Song, the Indonesian top welterweight contender, in 10.

Ponidi stopped Daud Sanusi in the third session of a scheduled flyweight eight.

Promoter: Anton Sihotang.
(9-4-88)

▶**SURABAYA**—Pulo Sugar Ray, 130, became the Indonesian junior lightweight champion by taking a majority decision from Ganitala, 128¾, in 12.

Robby Rahangmetan, 121¾, knocked out Mandagi, 126, in the second session of a scheduled eight.

Adam Suwaji, 127, unanimously decisioned M. Noor, 124½, in eight.

Henry Ariar, 135, won from Mega Camacho, 132¼, in eight.

Yudith Kurniawan, 116, won from Darmaji, 117¼, in eight.

Noer Cholis, 127, outpointed Barong, 127¾, in six.

Demmy, 109¼, outscored Idrus, 110¾, in six.

Demus Parera, 108, won from Rudiman, 108¼, in six.

Promoter: Lukman Hakim.
(9-21-88)

▶**MALANG**—Akri Suryaman, 112, took a unanimous decision from Udin, 112¼, in 10.

John Breces, the Indonesian Commission's #11 lightie, 140, drew with Budi Adiana, 136½, in 10.

Sambung, 127, won a unanimous nod over Eddy Sadaka, 128¼, in eight.

Sukardi, 114, decisioned Kid Samora, 113¼, in eight.

Risidanto, 112¼, scored an upset decision over Little Pono, 113½, in eight.

Puji Widodo, the IBC's #8 junior featherweight, 122¼, outpointed Charles, 122, in eight.

Herman Muis, 126¾, TKO'd Socrates, 127, in the fifth session of a scheduled six.

Juhari, 108½, drew with Tonny Sumawa, 108¼, in six.

Promoter: Agus Mulyantono.

(9-23-88)

JOE KOIZUMI, P. SETIJADI LAKSONO & ABBAS PRABOWO

JAPAN

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall — A headliner this month must be Japanese welterweight champion Hiroyuki Yoshino. He amazed the crowd with a stunning demolition of Toshinao Odagiri, previously fighting as Masatoshi Takeshi, at 2:17 in the opening session in a scheduled tenner and defended his national throne for the second time.

Each tipped the beam at 147 pounds.

In a semi-windup of the Mike Tyson vs. Tony Tubbs title bout at Tokyo Dome March 21, Yoshino had dethroned Takao Sakamoto via an upset fourth-round kayo. Yoshino recklessly began his fireworks by swinging his specialty, powerful left hooks, and dropped the nervous challenger on three occasions. Yoshino, 21, improved his log to 10-3 with seven knockouts. Odagiri, 27, fell to 8-10 with four kayoes. Yoshino has zoomed up from obscurity as many boxing fans didn't know his name a year ago. But after his title acquirement, he scored a couple of impressive kayoes in as many defenses. If he has more fights he may be good opposition to Fujio Ozaki, the OPBF welterweight champ and the WBC's #10 contender.

Having suffered a string of defeats, Eiji Kikuzaki, formerly a kayo specialist, 147, seemed to regain some of his previous zip and power as he stopped Makoto Ito, a tough guy, also 147, at 2:17 of the fourth round in a supporting 10. Kikuzaki, the JBC's #4 junior welterweight contender, is 16-3-2 with 14 kayoes. Ito, from Kyoto, impaired to 8-6 with three stoppages. Eiji, however, needs much more sharpness and speed to cope with top-notchers.

Shinichi Sugazaki, 129, knocked out Jun Watanabe, 130, at 0:58 of the fourth session in a scheduled eight. Sugazaki, a glass-jawed puncher, is 6-2 with six kayoes.

Promoter: Thelapy Watanabe Promotions.

Attendance: 2,500.

TV: TV Asahi.

(9-6-88)

▶**KURUME** — Masumi Miura, 144, drew with Tadafumi Miura, 142¼, in eight.

Toshihiko Tusjino, 110, halted Kunio Nogata, also 110, at the end of the sixth session in a scheduled eight.

(8-27-88)

▶**OSAKA**—Osaka Prefectural Gymnasium—The finals of Shinjin-o (Novice King) tourney in Osaka zone were fought in six-rounders before 920 spectators.

Middleweight: Yushin Sumiya, 157, decisioned Haruhisa Tokuda, 159, in six.

Welterweight: Shinji Shiomi, former kempo (a kind of karate) battler, 146, knocked out Jun Morigaki at 2:13 of the first round. Shiomi is 6-0 with five kayoes.

Junior welterweight: Masao Mori, 139, ran his log to 3-0 with two kayoes by finishing Takeshi Oda, 139½, at 1:17 of the fourth round.

Lightweight: Isamu Iwasaki, 134, won a close but unanimous decision over Akira Daito, 135, in six.

Junior lightweight: Unbeaten Toshikazu Suzuki, 130, TKO'd Takuji Nakatsuji, 130, at 1:29 of the second round. Suzuki is 3-0 with two kayoes.

Featherweight: Masuro Takeda, 125½, was awarded a hairline unanimous nod (all 58-57) over Atsushi Tamaoki, 135, in six.

Junior featherweight: Toshikazu Aoki, 5-0 with four kayoes, was declared a winner to his opponent Matsuura's walkover.

Bantamweight: Yoshikazu Tamazaki, 117½, scored an upset decision over Tadateru Katekari, 118 pounds and previously 4-0 with all kayoes, in six.

Junior bantamweight: Yutaka Sakamoto, 114, beat Seiji Hamano, 113, on points in six.

Flyweight: Yasunobu Yoshida, 112, extended his log to 5-0 with three kayoes via a unanimous decision over Masaji Murakami, 112, in six.

Junior flyweight: Tatenori Kamioka, 106½, TKO'd Masatoshi Kobayashi, 107½, at 0:24 of the sixth and final session.

Promoter: Shin-Nippon Osaka Promotions.

(8-29-88)

▶**NAGOYA**—Nagoya City General Purpose Hall (Rainbow Hall)—Mexican **Gilberto Roman,** 114¼, successfully kept his WBC world superflyweight title by winning a unanimous decision over previously unbeaten Kiyoshi Hatanaka, 114¾, in 12 (see January, '89 issue). The semifinal saw veteran Masakatsu Sakuma, 127, easily dispose of Yoshito Mizuo, also 127, at 2:34 of the second session in a scheduled 10. We saw a very rare kayo win by Sakuma, the JBC's fourth-ranked featherweight, who had a losing run.

Shinji Ozawa, the JBC's #7 bantamweight, 114½, drew with Yasuei Yakushiji, 114¾, in eight.

Promoter: Matsuda Boxing Promotions.

Attendance: 8,000 (est.)

TV: CBC.

(9-4-88)

▶**TSUCHIURA**—Tsuchiura Sports Center—Takeshi Shinbori, 114, floored Nobuyuki Sudo, 115, three times with persistent body punches and scored an automatic kayo win at 2:45 of the second round in a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Yamaguchi Tsuchiura Promotions.

(9-10-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—The A-Class Prize tourney reached the semifinals with all ranked contenders by the Japanese Commissions.

Osamu Sasaki, the JBC's third-ranked junior flyweight, 112, caught a lantern-jawed lefty named Masayuki Takahashi, also 112, and dropped him thrice to score a kayo win at 2:54 of the fourth round in a scheduled six. Sasaki, a lanky and still awkward rookie, is 12-1 with six kayoes. Takahashi, the JBC's #3 flyweight, fell to 16-5 with seven knockouts.

Filipino import Tiger Asakura, 130, was awarded a close decision (all 59-58) over rugged puncher Takao Sakuma, also 130, in six. Tiger, a puzzling lefty, frustrated and confused the vaunted puncher all the way. Tiger is 3-1 with two kayoes in his campaigns here. Sakuma is 10-3 with seven kayoes.

Seiji Asakawa, the Japanese third-ranked featherweight, 122, was held to a majority draw by Keiichi Ozaki, 121½, in six. In order to decide who would proceed to the final, they had to fight a seventh round and Ozaki was named the winner. (The record in the JBC is a six-round draw).

Former Japanese junior lightweight champ Yoshimitsu Azato, 130, proved too ringwise and awesome for Mutsumi Suzuki, 129¼, stopping him at 0:46 of the third round in a scheduled six. Azato is 22-7-1 with 13 kayoes. The lanky boxer-puncher was once rated highly by the WBA, but after his loss to Isiah Yonekura Ikhoni in his bid to regain the national title in 1984, the previously talented Azato's career has been declining. He failed to win the Japanese lightweight title via a disputed decision this year.

Lancer Maeda, 122, scored an upset split decision over Lion (Ari) Maeda, the WBC's 19th-ranked contender, by relentless body attacks in six. Reportedly, Lion suffered an injured left hand in the first round and failed to throw left jabs after. Lancer is 12-6-1 with just a kayo. Lion tasted his first defeat in his fifth bout here.

Toshio Aikawa, the JBC's #4 flyweight, 111¾, was given the rights to fight in the final as he drew with Yasutaka Sakurai, 112, at 1:00 into the opening session due to the latter's bad bleeding in a scheduled six.

Supporting sixers: Having suffered a bad knockout at the hand of Hiroyuki Yoshino in his quest for the national title, Hitoshi Kamiyama, the JBC's second-ranked welterweight, 154, made a less than impressive comeback as he barely wore down Satoshi Yokozaki, 153, and stopped him at 2:09 of the sixth and final round. Kamiyama is 9-1-1 with four kayoes.

Hiroaki Motohashi, the JBC's #3 welterweight, was knocked out cold by unheralded Tatsuhiro Kawabata, 145, at 0:41 of the second round in a scheduled six. Motohashi fell to 12-5-1 with five kayoes. The upset winner is 7-4 with four knockouts.

Promoter: Shin-Nippon Kimura Promotions.

TV: Fuji TV.

(9-12-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Noboru Ogiwara, a slow starter at 122, was befuddled by the aggressiveness and speed of Mexican Antonio Rubio, 121½, in the first two rounds, but eventually caught him with wicked body punches and finished him at 1:35 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10. The loser made no effort to stand and fight again. Ogiwara, 12-1-2 with four kayoes, didn't show any improvement after receiving a lesson at the hand of Kenji Iizumi by a seventh-round kayo loss October 22 last. Ogiwara must hone his left hand. Rubio, 10-2 with nine kayoes, fought better than expected.

Jorge Rodriguez, another Mexican at 124, was awarded a TKO over Kazushige Shibuya, the JBC's #5 junior featherweight, at the end of the fifth round in a scheduled 10 as the latter was bleeding badly in the mouth. Jorge is 16-6-2 with 13 kayoes. Kazushige is

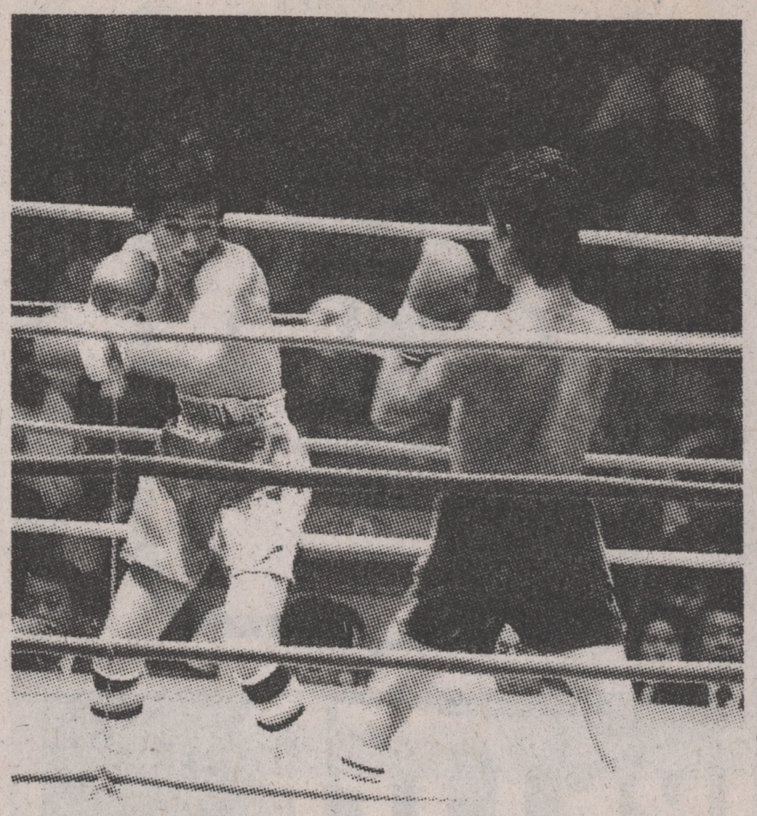


PHOTO BY MAMORU KUBOTA

Noboru Ogiwara (left) got off to a slow start, but eventually caught up with Mexican Antonio Rubio for an eighth-round stoppage in Tokyo.

9-4 with three knockouts. Prior to the stoppage Shibuya was ahead on points owing to Rodriguez's sluggish performance.

The Japanese boys were seconded by Korean **Soo-Hwang Hong** former world bantamweight and WBA junior featherweight champ.

Promoter: Kaneko Promotions.

(9-14-88)

▶**MITO** — Mito Citizens Gymnasium — Having acquired the vacant OPBF welterweight title (relinquished by Yong-Kil Lee) by beating Filipino champ Francisco Ferrer last July, **Fujio Ozaki** engaged in his first defense. Ozaki, 146½, battered Indonesian challenger Robert Azumah, 147, with good overhand rights and stopped him at 2:44 of the ninth round in a scheduled 12. Ozaki had the smaller opponent on the deck with a smashing right midway in Round Seven. Azumah was unable to cope with Ozaki's follow-up in the fatal session. Ozaki, who failed to win the WBA crown against **Marlon Starling** last February in Atlantic City, is 23-5 with 15 knockouts. It was Robert's first appearance here. He was more fragile than expected.

In the semifinal, Masahiro Takagi, Japanese junior lightweight champ, 130, whipped a slower Kimio Saotome, 129½, and notched a technical knockout at 2:53 of the 10th and final session. It was his second defense since dethroning Fusao Imai via a lopsided decision February 16. Takagi is 24-7-3 with 12 knockouts. Saotome is 8-12-3 with five KOs.

Promoter: Teiken Promotions.

(9-18-88)

▶**TOKYO**—Korakuen Hall—Prefight favorite Takeshi Yamato, Japanese middleweight ruler, 157, showed his inability to handle a lefty challenger named Yoshiaki Tajima, 157, and lost his crown via a bad knockout at 1:54 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10. The taller and stylish Yamato didn't show his left jab, allowing Tajima to fight in close quarters. He took many body shots from the bull fighter, Tajima. No one had imagined the 30-year-old challenger would win over the highly regarded champ, 23, but anything can happen in the ring. The loser hit the deck in the third and fourth rounds. Yamato fell to 6-2-2 with four kayoes. Tajima improved to 7-4 with five knockouts. He may be the national champ with the worst record.

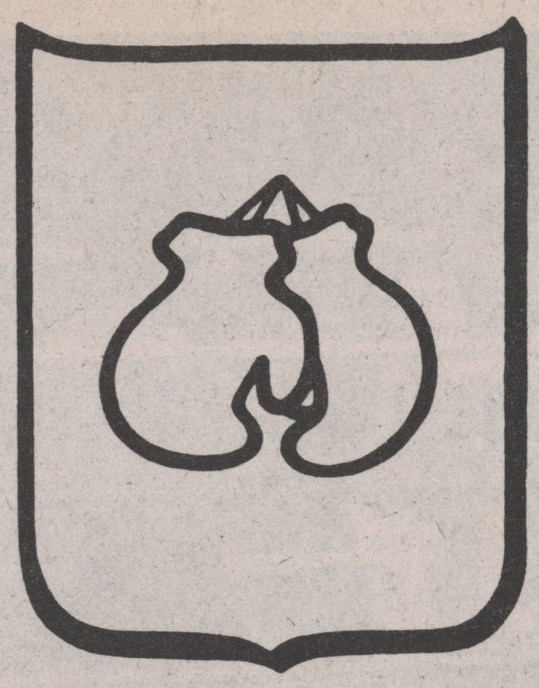
Emil Matsushima, the WBC's 10th-ranked flyweight, 112½, had a tough time in his tune-up go prior to his forthcoming crack at the world throne held by Korean **Yong-Kang Kim** November 12, but won a unanimous decision over Indonesian Azadin Anhar, 111½, in 10. The lefty Emil is truly a hard hitter, but he didn't display any defensive skills, receiving many roundhouse blows from the Indonesian top contender. Azadin had an awkward style and fighting spirit as well. Scores: referee Tezaki 99-96, judges Ugo and Kanaya 99-96 and 99-95, all for Emil. The Filipino import raised his credentials to 19-4-1 with 12 kayoes. The world champ Kim, from Korea, was in attendance to study his next challenger.

Promoter: Therapy Watanabe Promotions.

TV: TBS TV.

(9-19-88)

JOE KOIZUMI



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KOREA

▶**PUSAN**—Sajik Gymnasium—**Myung-Woo Yuh,** the WBA junior flyweight champ, 108, successfully retained his throne by knocking our Thai titlist Putt Ohyuthanakorn, also 108, at 2:58 of the sixth round in a scheduled 12 (see January, '89 issue).

In the semifinal 10, **Jun-Suk Hwang,** the WBA's #10 junior middleweight contender, 160, showed his strength by halting Japanese Toshinori Matsuyanagi, 158¾, at 1:02 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10. Hwang is 37-4 with 27 kayoes. Matsuyanagi is 5-7 with five knockouts. The Korean, who downed **Don Curry** and defeated **Pipino Cuevas**, is still awesome and ferocious.

Chong-Hwa Park, the Korean top middleweight contender, 160, decisioned Bong-Chul Kim, also 160, in eight. Park is 6-3-1 with three kayoes.

Ha-Shik Lim, the WBA's sixth-ranked junior flyweight, 111, surprisingly lost on a third-round technical decision to Joung-Keun Lim, 110½, in a scheduled 10. He-Shik impaired to 21-9-2 with six kayoes. Joung-Keun is 11-2 with three knockouts.

Joo-Sup Shin, 110, disposed of Joung-Jae Lee, 109¾, at 2:48 of the eighth and final round.

Jae-Won Choi, 123¾, stopped Sang-Hyun Bae, 123¾, at 2:48 of a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Dong-A Promotions.
(8-28-88)

▶**EUJOUNGBU**—Eujoungbu City Arena—OPBF bantamweight champion Chun Huh was scheduled to defend his crown against his compatriot Young-Chun Min here. A week before, however, a fire broke out at Ilhwa Gym to which the champ belongs. Huh jumped from the third floor and had an ankle fractured. Reportedly, it will take a couple of months for him to recover from the injury.

The challenger Min, 119¼, was obliged to meet a Filipino substitute named Kid Tavera, 119¼, and stopped him at 2:32 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10. Min, a persistent bomber, sank the Filipino top contender and raised his log to 15-0 with nine kayoes. Tavera fell to 6-4-4 with three kayoes.

The semifinal saw Sang-Do Chung, 154, retain his Korean junior middleweight crown by outpointing Sang-Joo Park, 153, in 10. Chung, who failed to win the OPBF crown via a decision to Carlos Elliot months ago, is 14-4-2 with three kayoes. Park is 7-4-1 with two knockouts.

Unbeaten bantam prospect Chong-Pil Park, 120¼, ran his log to 13-0 with four kayoes by decisioning Won-Ge Shim, also 120¼, in 10. Shim impaired to 12-3 with eight kayoes.

Promoter: Kangpo Promotions.
(8-21-88)

▶**BUCHUN**—Buchun Citizens Arena—Byung-Shik Bae, 108, became the Korean junior flyweight champion as he outpointed Chang-Woo Hong, 108, in 10. Bae is 9-2-2 with four kayoes. Hong fell to 13-3 with six knockouts.

Promoter: Palpal Promotions.
(9-11-88)

▶**NOTES:** Because of the Olympic Games in Seoul in late September and early October, there were no boxing cards staged in Korea due to TV companies' concentration on showing The Games.

JOE KOIZUMI & YOO-CHANG KIM

PHILIPPINES

▶**MANILA**—Rizal Memorial Coliseum—Former WBC super featherweight champ **Rolando Navarrete,** 134, proved to have regained his previous zip and power as he dropped Indonesian champ Juhari in the first and eighth rounds to win a unanimous decision in 10. Juhari, however, showed his real power when he floored the Filipino with a wicked right shot in the final session. Scores: Alejandro Francisco and Godofredo Fandialan both 99-98, and Alex Villacampa 97-92, all for the 31-year-old Navarrete. It was Rolando's second comeback triumph, following a decision over Elmer Leonardo last May. Navarrete, now piloted by Papa Sarreal, is 47-10-3 with 24 knockouts. He is aiming to have a crack at the world title in the near future by keeping busy.

Edel Geronimo, Filipino junior bantamweight champ, 116½, displayed his strength in stopping Jun Edward, 118, in a scheduled non-title tenner.

Joe Hiyas, ex-WBC international super bantamweight champ, 126, dropped an upset decision to Rudy Cabiles, 125½, in 10.

Rex Cabubas, 146, took a unanimous duke over Rey Angara, also 146, in 10.

Promoter: Laura Elorde.
(7-22-88)

▶**TAGUM, DAVAO**—Filipino bantamweight champ Loremer Pontino, 120¾, was held to a majority draw by Dadoy Andujar, ex-titlist, 118¾, in 10. Pontino, thanks to his string of kayo wins, got ranked 10th in the 118-pound class by the WBA.

Rex Cailing, the GAB's #8 mini flyweight, 110, unanimously decisioned Loloc Elloren, also 110, in 10.

Romy Ceniza, 108, scored an eight-round TKO over Rolando Caderon, also 108, in a scheduled 10.

Al Balamba, the Filipino top junior featherweight contender, 118, fought to a split draw with Tim Balantay, 118, in 10.

Ronnie Tan, 110, stopped Edward Wagas, 109, in the sixth session of a scheduled 10.

Francis Velasquez, 130, TKO'd Alvin Salud, 131, in the seventh round of the first 10.

Promoter: Resurreccion Obero.
(7-2-88)

▶**PAGADIAN CITY**—Roger Quisaba, 130, pounded out a unanimous decision over Tata Ariosa, 130, in 10.

Feliz Mantos, 112, was given a split nod over Jun Generale, also 112, in 10.

Promoter: Diosgracias Montealto.
(7-2-88)

▶**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY—Jongjong Pacquing**, the IBF's top junior welterweight contender, 138, proved he was ready to fight a mandatory title go in New York as he impressively demolished trialhorse Boy Romero, 140, at 1:25 of the first round in a scheduled 10. Pacquing had to stay in the Philippines, waiting for the outcome of the Buddy McGirt vs. **Meldric Taylor** encounter. Jongjong is willing to meet the winner, Taylor, in Atlantic City or MSG. Pacquing is 40-9-3 with 19 kayoes.

Ric Dolotallas, the GAB's #4 junior welterweight, 145, drew with Fred Tadena, 151, in 10.

Fernando Baja, 109, was a unanimous points winner over Roger Gamayot, 108½, in 10.

Promoter: Carlos Almirante.
(7-2-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—Roger Vicera, the Filipino fourth-ranked junior bantie, 115, caught Elmer Magallano, an aging veteran, 113, in the third round of a scheduled 10. Magallano previously fought Satsoshi Shingaki in his quest for the IBF bantamweight crown to be stopped in eight rounds April 16, 1984.

John Medina, the GAB's second-ranked mini-flyweight, 110, was also a TKO victor over Suay Baguio Kid, 109, in the fifth round in a scheduled 10.

Danny Lumanog, 118, was awarded a majority decision over Boy Posadas, also 118, in 10.

Brecs Sumatra, 122, won from Baby Capili, 123, in 10.

Jojie Agusan, 122, halted Lec Liancion, also 122, in the fourth session of the first 10.

Promoter: Ramon Siaty.
(7-3-88)

▶**TRENTO, AGUSAN SUR**—Former Filipino champ Jun Resma, 119, proved too ringwise and scrappy for Teo Aradora, 121, halting him in the second round in a scheduled 10.

Nathan Ballerda, 112, stopped Jerry Sira, 112, in the fourth stanza in a supporting 10.

Promoter: Leonardo Bacus.
(7-9-88)

▶**PRANAQUE, METRO MANILA**—Elorde Sports Complex—Momong Mana-ay, the Filipino #9 junior lightie, 130, was awarded a technical decision over Danilo Contado, also 130, in the fifth round in a scheduled 10. Vic Valdez refereed.

Jun Altarejos, the GAB's #5 mini flyweight, chalked up a TKO win over Anthony Rendiza, 106, at 0:57 of the second session of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Laura Elorde.
(7-13-88)

▶**OZAMIS CITY**—Rod Naiconi, the Filipino top flyweight contender, 113, showed a second-round stoppage of Joseph Saljob, 112, in a scheduled 10.

Tom Ramos, 117, impressively knocked out Steve Nerza, 116, in the third session of a semifinal 10.

Eldie Paradero, 116, was held to a majority draw by Joseph Ladipe, also 116, in 10.

Rodel Mirano, 124, TKO'd Boy Masuay, also 124, in the second round of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Reynaldo Yabut.
(7-16-88)

▶**ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR**—Rico Slodora, 111, earned

a unanimous decision over Jun Generale, also 112, in 10.

Bonifacio Calonia refereed.

Felix Mantos, the GAB's #8 junior flyweight, 112, outscored Al Campania, also 112, in 10.

Promoter: Cesar Cinco.

(7-16-88)

▶**SALAY**—Rito Acobo, 115, scored a fine TKO victory over Tany Pisongco, 117, in the second round of a scheduled six.

Promoter: Ben Ompec.

(7-16-88)

▶**MEMBAJAO, GAMIGUIN**—Del Tengam, the Filipino #7 mini flyweight, 108, eked out a majority decision over Jongjong Perez, 108, in 10.

Fernando Baja, 107, TKO'd Boy Acepcion, 106, in the ninth round of a scheduled 10.

Bonnie Ballientos, 121, halted Brecs Sumatra, 120, in the eighth round of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Gualberto Salcedo.

(7-17-88)

▶**ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR**—Jaimy Nacalaban, 127, managed to win a split decision over Jessim Garzon, 128, in 10.

Promoter: Roberto Rodrigo.

(7-23-88)

▶**DAPITAN CITY**—Jun Placencia, the Filipino #8 junior lightie, 128, displayed his power punching and stopped Jun Carreon, 128, at 2:00 of the sixth session in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Roberto Rodrigo.

(7-24-88)

▶**VALENCIA BUKIDNON**—Jun Ramos, the Filipino top junior welterweight contender, 145, took a unanimous decision from Rey Balaba, 145, in 10.

Roger Quisaba, 130, TKO'd Allan Baring, 131, at 0:40 of the ninth round in a scheduled 10.

Cesar de la Cruz, 112, stopped Boy Illana, 111, in the fifth round of a supporting 10.

Al Campania, 110, was also a TKO winner over Bravo Pagas Pas, 112, at 2:30 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Isabelo Bacolod.

(7-24-88)

▶**BULUSAN, SORSOGON**—Elmer Leonardo, 143, defeated Garry Milanes, 135, by a unanimous decision in 10. Vic Valdez refereed.

Promoter: Antonio F. Cansino.

(7-24-88)

▶**ZAMBOANGA DEL SUR**—Victor Sagaad, 129, won a split decision over Tata Ariosa, 130, in 10.

Flor Acenas, 128, TKO'd Alex Masicampo, 129, at 2:00 of the 10th round.

Promoter: Roberto Rodrigo.

(7-25-88)

▶**VILLANUEVA**—Ali Albaracin, 130, fought to a technical draw with Tata Ariosa, also 130, midway in the third round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Ben Ompoc.

(7-29-88)

▶**BAGUIO CITY**—Sammy Baculong, the Filipino #6 flyweight, 116, was awarded a majority decision over Al Mariano, 116¼, in 10.

Boy Dignos, 107, unanimously decisioned Romy Austria, 109, in 10.

Promoter: Emily dela Rama.

(7-30-88)

▶**PASIG—Tacy Macalos**, a fast-rising junior flyweight, 111, showed his strength in disposing of a Thai opponent named Thanjai Donjadee, 110, at 2:47 of the third round in a scheduled 10. Macalos, regarded as the strongest 108-pounder in this country, landed a solid right to the ribs and send Donjadee to dreamland. This was a tune-up go for Macalos, who will fight in his quest for the IBF crown against **Jum-Hwan Choi**.

Rolando Protacio, the Filipino fourth-ranked flyweight, 111, needed just 169 seconds in the first round to polish off Ded Donjadee, another Thai at 106, in a supporting 10.

Flash Emmanuel, Filipino junior featherweight champ, 123½, utilized his puzzling lefty style and took a unanimous decision from Nick Ampong, 124, in 10.

Promoter: Ramon Lainez.

(7-30-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—John Medina, 107, won a unanimous decision over Cris Sanchez, 107, in 10.

Promoter: Ben Ompoc.

(7-31-88)

▶**CALINAN, DAVAO**—Jun Resma, ex-Filipino junior flyweight champ, 118, showed his ring experience and TKO'd Elysser Bautista, 119, in the fourth round in a scheduled 10.

Arman Pecar, the Filipino top welterweight contender, 150, scored a technical knockout over Rey Balaba, 145, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Pepito Simblante, 118, outpointed Speedy Sidong, also 118, in 10.

Lannie Sullano, 130, TKO'd Alvin Salud, 130, in the fourth canto in the first 10.

Promoter: Victor Quiambao.

(8-5-88)

▶**CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY**—Frank Domino, the Filipino top junior lightweight contender, 129, finely knocked out Victor Sagaad, 127½, at 2:30 of the second round in a scheduled 10.

Pat Bracero, 115, unanimously decisioned Roger Vicera, 116, in 10.

Flor Acenas, 122, beat Jun Tinoy, also 122, on points in 10.

Promoter: Carlos Almirante.

(8-6-88)

▶**TAGUM, DAVAO**—On a good card featuring an encounter between an ex-OPBF lightweight champ and a Filipino junior welterweight titlist, **Jongjong Pacquing**, 137½, survived a couple of knockdowns, fought back hard and won a majority decision over Allan Allegria, the WBC's #25 junior welterweight, 141¾, in 10. It was a grudge rematch as they had battled to a draw in the previous year.

Elson Duran, the GAB's #3 mini flyweight, 109, took a unanimous decision over Ricky Flor, 108½, in 10.

Kid Kanashiro, 114, TKO'd Trifon Torralba, 114, in the fourth session of a scheduled 10.

Ben Capagngan, 125, unanimously outscored Jun Pampliega, 126, in 10.

Mario Sumalinog, 121, won from Nelson Cabig, 119, in 10.

Promoter: Eusebio Almario Jr.

(8-6-88)

▶**TUBOD, LANAO DEL SUR**—Noel Toledo, 130, fought to a split draw with Flor Galicia, 128, in 10.

Rolando Calderon, 110, won over Sally Sescon, 109, in 10.

Pol Franko, 128, decisioned Alex Masicampo, 128, in 10.

Promoter: Juanito Salazar.

(8-6-88)

▶**ZAMBOANGA CITY**—Felix Mantos, the Filipino #7 junior flyweight, 111, battered Star Molina Jr., 110, and pummeled him into submission at 2:30 of the eighth round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Fortunate Sobrepena.

(8-13-88)

▶**DAVAO DEL NORTE**—Young Rey Cascas, the GAB's third-ranked flyweight, 113, pounded out a unanimous decision over Allan Morre, also 113, in 10.

Young Abaloyan, the Filipino top featherweight contender, 129, eked out a split duke over Boy Ligas, 128, in 10.

Nathan Balierda, 110, TKO'd Romy Ceniza, 108, in the fourth session of a scheduled 10.

Luis Milado, 131½, was also a TKO winner over Tata Ariosa, 131½, in the second round of a scheduled 10.

Francis Villasquez, 124, made short work of Flor Acenas, 123, halting him in the opening session of a scheduled 10.

Domino Flash Simene, 118, won a unanimous nod from Diony Rago, 118, in 10.

Promoter: Resurreccion Obero.

(8-13-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—John Medina, the GAB's #2 mini flyweight, 108, took a unanimous decision from Dick Carlos III, 105, in 10.

Ali Albaracin, 129, and Flor Galicia, 131, battled to a technical draw in the second session of a scheduled 10.

Brecs Sumatra, 119, TKO'd Bebe Capili, 120, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Bonnie Ballientos, 117, knocked out Samuel Duran, 118, in the second session of a scheduled 10.

Jongjong Perez, 111, scored a technical knockout over Iton Mangmang, 110, at 1:40 of the eighth round of the first 10.

Promoter: Ramon Siaty.

(8-14-88)

▶**MAASIN, SOUTH LEYTE**—Al Tan Lee, the GAB's #10 junior flyweight, copped a unanimous verdict over Rocky Marcial, 110, in 10.

Promoter: Percilo Pontillo.

(8-16-88)

▶**MISAMIS ORIENTAL**—Jun Placencia, 127, earned a unanimous decision over Jun Tinoy, 126, in 10.

(8-16-88)

▶**PARANAQUE, METRO MANILA**—Former Filipino junior featherweight champ Little Bangoyan, 123½, made good use of his left hand, dropped Ric dela Paz, 127½, once in the second round and twice more in the next session before stopping him at 1:46 of the third stanza in a scheduled 10.



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Pacuito Openo, 124, exploded a vicious left hook and halted Mario Meracap, 126, at 2:50 of the third round in a scheduled 10. The loser said to the referee Danny Rodenas that he couldn't continue fighting after the bad knockdown.

Promoter: Galorde Promotions.
(8-16-88)

▶**INFANTA, QUEZON**—Jun Pastor, the Filipino second-ranked welterweight, 147, scored a quick demolition of Pastor Arcaya, 147, at 2:15 of the opening session in a scheduled 10.

Romeo Opriasa, 114, halted Vic Gaime, also 114, in the fourth round of a scheduled 10.

Armando Tenoria, 106, stopped Joel Revilla, also 106, at 2:44 of the fifth canto in a scheduled 10.

Eric Chavez, 110, disposed of Domy Ursua Jr., 106, at 2:14 of the first round in a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Grego Garcia.
(8-19-88)

▶**DIGOS, DAVAO DEL SUR**—Ramil Austria, 118, chalked up a TKO triumph over Ruel Idombingo, 118, in the eighth session of a scheduled 10.

William Jr., 118, won from Pepito Simbalante, 118, in 10.

Felix Sadili, 119, TKO'd Tony Boy Bello, 120, in the seventh canto in a scheduled 10.

Renato Guevarra, 108, was given a majority duke over Renato Betsaida, also 108, in 10.

Promoter: William Sanchez Sr.
(8-20-88)

▶**STO. TOMAS, DAVAO**—Ben Capagngan, 119, showed his power in halting Boy Louperez, also 119, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Eusebio Almario Jr.
(8-20-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—Rod Naiconi, the Filipino top flyweight contender, 112, managed to win a majority decision over Jun Torregosa, 112, in 10.

Ric Dolotallas, 140, stopped Nickdi Wenceslao, also 140, at 1:15 of the fourth round in a scheduled 10.

Roger Quisaba, 130, unanimously decisioned Apt Bado, also 130, in 10.

Del Timgam, 111, TKO'd Rey Bonito, 110, at 1:55 of the ninth session in a scheduled 10.

Jun Generale, 112, decisioned Arnold Solitario, 111, in 10.

Promoter: Isabelo Bacolod.
(8-21-88)

▶**MIDSYAP, NORTH COTABATO**—Elmer Cubillas, the GAB's #4 bantamweight, 121, drew with Al Balaba, 120, in 10.

Mario Parcon, 115, also fought to a draw with Nelson Cabig, 115, in 10.

Tim Balantay, 120, TKO'd Ric Apatan, 119, in the ninth round of a scheduled 10.

Edgar Inocencio, 114, drew with Rolando Calderon, 111, in 10.

Promoter: Ben Hur Bedia.
(8-21-88)

▶**MAMBAJAO CAMIGUIN**—Boy Pacamalan, 110, showed his superiority in stopping Jericho Jonas, 108, at 1:30 of the fifth round in a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Antonio Ranara.
(8-21-88)

▶**TAGUM**—Former Filipino flyweight champ **Dadoy Andujar**, 118, continued a good year with a string of wins as he earned a majority decision over **Ernie Cataluna**, ex-OPBF bantamweight champ, 118, in 10. Cataluna previously challenged **Kelvin Seabrooks** for the IBF bantamweight crown only to be stopped in Italy. He then lost his OPBF throne to Chun Huh via a controversial decision in Korea. Andujar defeated Edel Geronimo by an upset decision last March. The loser Edel became the national junior bantamweight champ, beating Constancio Dangla via a fourth-round technical decision two months later. Stopping Pat Bracero in three, Andujar outscored the flyweight champ Romy Navarrete in a non-title 10. He then held the bantamweight boss Loremer Pontino to a majority draw.

Veteran Jun Resma, 119, won a unanimous nod over Speedy Sidong, also 119, in 10.

Nathan Ballerda, 109, TKO'd Rizalde Ocampo, 107, in the eighth round of a scheduled 10.

Ronnie Tan, 112, stopped Jaime Cientos, 112, in the second session of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Ofelia Lumangtad.
(8-27-88)

▶**VALENCIA, BUKIDNON**—Flash Ursus, the GAB's #9 junior lightie, 130, was held to a technical draw by Fighting Leolet, 129, in the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

Jun Quiamco, 130, unanimously decisioned Jimmy Nacalaban, 129, in 10.

Rex Cailing, 110, won from Al Campania, 111, in 10.

Loel Alaiza, 106, TKO'd Veto Bentazar, 105, at 2:25 of the ninth session of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Lolito Tucmo.
(8-27-88)

▶**MALIKINA, METRO MANILA**—Former OPBF junior lightweight champ Rod Sequenan, 138, displayed his aggressive southpaw attacks and decked a fine TKO win over Amy Pacana, also 138, at 2:40 of the second round in a scheduled 10.

Rolando Pascua, 112, stopped Romy Austria, also 112, at 1:35 of the ninth session of a scheduled 10.

Promoter: Grego Garcia.
(8-28-88)

▶**PARANAQUE, METRO MANILA**—Virgilio Opino, the GAB's #6 bantamweight, 119, unanimously decisioned Wilfredo Mendoza, 118, in 10.

Promoter: Laura Elorde.
(8-28-88)

▶**ANGELES CITY**—Having beaten Japan's top junior featherweight contender Kazuya Kano in fine fashion in Tokyo August 4, Leon Collins, 126, took a unanimous decision from Boy Masuay, also 126, in 10.

Ronnie Cabalquinto, 122, stopped Eddie Ammad, also 122, at 2:29 of the second session of a scheduled eight.

Promoter: Antonio Esquerra.
(8-28-88)

JOE KOIZUMI

THAILAND

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Thanomsak Sithboabay, the WBC's fourth-ranked super flyweight, 117, proved too strong and scrappy for Ippo Gala, Indonesian flyweight boss, 114, taking a onesided decision in 10.

Thanomsak is one of the brightest Thai prospects with good height and hard punching. After being dethroned by Kenji Matsumura via a controversial split decision May 3 of the previous year, the former OPBF (Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation) flyweight champ moved up to the 115-pound class. He kept winning, beating ex-WBC champ Frank Cedeno and other tough boys. The Thai battered the shorter Indonesian from all angles. He dominated almost every round, although the crowd booed his failure to finish the victim. Thanomsak is 22-1 with 12 knockouts.
(8-28-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Champ Kiatpetch, the Thai Commission's top flyweight contender, 117, unanimously decisioned Kumpanart Prapassoramoter, 116, in six. Champ, who is not a Thai champ yet, is 10-1 with nine kayoes.
(8-2-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Pornchai Boonthavee, the TBC's #6 mini-flyweight, 109, was floored twice in the first and second sessions and lost an upset decision to Fahlun Lookmingkwan, an unheralded rookie, 108, in six. The odds were 3-1 for Pornchai, who absorbed severe punishment from the newcomer.
(8-3-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Chana Porpaoin, newly ranked 10th in the mini flyweight class by the TBC, 106, easily caught Singngern Sithkosa, 105, and polished him off in the first round of a scheduled six.
(8-4-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Unbeaten youngsters fought furiously, and Pahlangnum Sorborikarn, 107, was awarded a TKO win over Kaj Chartbandit, 108, due to the latter's bad bleeding from a gash over the left eyebrow in the fourth round of a scheduled six.
(8-5-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Surat Littledug, 116, stopped a simon pure named Singchai Wongprasert, 116, in the fourth session of scheduled six.
(8-6-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Downrung Technicutradit, the Thai second-ranked flyweight and the IBF's world #4 contender, 115, onesidedly attacked Nakarach Kiatsonthaya, also 115, and was awarded a TKO victory due to the latter's profusely bleeding right eyebrow in the sixth and final round. The winner is 17-3-2 with 11 knockouts.
(8-11-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Thantavan Vongvianyai, the TBC's #4 junior bantamweight, 116, showed aggressiveness in copping a unanimous nod over Phanchai Kiatsonthaya, a local boy, 118, in six.
(8-12-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Lefty Naramit Singdownkanong, the Thai six-ranked bantie, 114, displayed his power punching and disposed of Gongjak Sithkosa, 113, in the second session of a scheduled six. This was a daytime program telecast by TV Channel 7.
(8-13-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—In the night card Rerngrub Kruthavut, the TBC's #5 featherweight, 126, easily stopped Chainarong Sithseemok, 126, in the third session of a scheduled six.
(8-13-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Sanggern Looksuriya, an old soldier, 112, beat former Thai junior flyweight champ Kwanjai Sorpenpis, the WBC's #27 contender, 113, on points in six. Kwanjai looked in poor shape, moved and fought sluggishly. It was an upset.
(8-16-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Churcherd Eausampan, the TBC's #4 bantie, showed an easy demolition of Yuth Sithseemok, 122, in the second round in a scheduled six.

Chucherd belongs to Galaxy Gym.
(8-22-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—It was the first appearance of Muay-Thai boxer Pativat Sithsaema, 113, in an international style fight, but he lost to Veerachai Wongprasert, 112, in six.
(8-23-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Kongnapha Chovikul, the TBC's third-ranked junior featherweight, 126, didn't look in good shape and lost an upset decision to former amateur champ Petchthai Premcharern, 126, in six. Kongnapha wants a rematch.
(8-24-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—Having been beaten by **Hiroki Ioka** in an eliminator to decide the WBC's first strawweight champ October 18 of 1986, Mai Thomburifarm, 108, returned to action and won a unanimous decision over Kongphan Kiatthaveesukgym, 110, in six. Mai is 14-2 with six kayoes.
(8-27-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—**Samuth Sithnaruepol,** 105, retained the IBF world mini flyweight title as he won a unanimous decision over Korean challenger In-Kyu Hwang, 103, in 15. The lefty Thai champ utilized his longer reach and superior height and outclassed the shorter but game challenger. Samuth concentrated on countering the willing mixer in the last five rounds. Scores: Rey Cementina (Philippines) 147-144, Nibhon Larnluer (Thailand) 146-144, and Leon Johannes (Indnoesia) 146-142, all for the defending titlist. Sithnaruepol, a lanky winner, raised his credentials to 34-9-1 with 17 kayoes. Hwang fell to 18-3-1.
(8-29-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Lumpinee Stadium—San Nortorchor, 115, retained the Lumpinee Stadium's junior bantamweight title by stopping Surat Littledug, also 115, in the seventh round in a scheduled 10. Nortorchor is #2 ranked by the TBC.
(8-30-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Rajadamnern Stadium—Chana Porpaoin, the TBC's 10th-ranked mini flyweight, 106, impressively polished off Singhyok Jockygym, a newcomer at 105, in the second round in a scheduled six.
(8-31-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Downthong Chuvatana, former Thai lightweight champ, made a comeback after a 2½-year layoff and knocked out Saended Sithwichai in the first round of a scheduled six.
(9-1-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Having had a controversial draw with **Hiroki Ioka** for the WBC strawweight title in Japan June 5, **Napa Kiatwanchai** engaged in a tune-up go prior to the WBC's mandatory rematch and decked a TKO win over Tanchai Donjadee in the fourth round of a scheduled six. Napa, the WBC's top contender in the 105-pound division, is 7-0-1 with four kayoes. Tanchai is 13-7 with eight knockouts.
(9-4-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Muangchai Kitikasem, the WBC's 10th-ranked light flyweight, easily disposed of Japanese victim Hisao Nayuki in the first round of a scheduled 10. Muangchai beat Indonesian champ Udin in his debut after his Muay-Thai career and is 2-0 with a kayo.
(9-6-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Former Thai amateur champ Bangsaen Torkotsarn made a fine pro debut by finishing Korean Kap-Sap Song, the KBC's #7 bantamweight contender, in the first round in a scheduled eight.
(9-9-88)

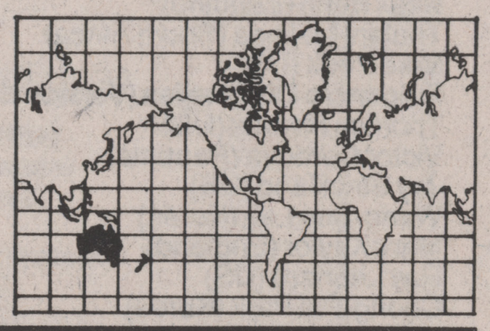
▶**BANGKOK**—It was a deluxe card featuring the Galaxy brothers' doubleheader.

Kaosai Galaxy, the WBA's world junior bantamweight champ, was befuddled by the aggressiveness of Filipino Jun Llano, but sank him in the third round of a scheduled non-title 10. Kaosai is 37-1 with 33 knockouts.

Kaokor Galaxy, former WBA bantamweight titlist, appeared for the first time since he lost the crown to Sung-Kil Moon in Korea August 14 and proved too strong for Filipino John Matienza via a third-round knockout in a scheduled 10. Kaokor is 19-1 with 16 kayoes.
(9-12-88)

▶**BANGKOK**—Thongberm Vongviaanyai, the Thai top lightweight contender, was held to a draw by Samor Donjadee, the #2 lightie, in 10. It was an eliminator to decide a new Thai lightweight kingpin, but they will have to fight again for the vacant throne.
(9-15-88)

JOE KOIZUMI



PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**MOORE PARK**—Hordern Pavilion, Sydney Showground—Aussie Jeff "Hitman" Harding, 172, halted American Dean Moore, 176½, in Round Eight of a 10. No knockdowns, but Moore was badly shaken, had run the full gauntlet and was ready to be KO'd when Billy Males rescued him at exactly the right second.

Moore, shorter than Harding, pressured the Aussie Hitman but Harding boxed on the backmove, picking off Moore, then moved forward every time he got Moore into a position that favored Harding.

Moore was a good test for Harding at this stage of Jeff's career. He needs more of this so he can learn, but not top-class fighters until he finishes his apprenticeship. Jeff has the makings.

At the end of Round Seven the judges had 70-64, 70-64 and 69-63, all in favor of Harding. *The Ring* saw it Harding, 68-64.

Former Australian champion Kevin Wagstaff, 191¾, had too much experience for Amian Basic, 191½, who was making his pro debut after a good amateur career. Basic was outclassed and the towel came in in Round Four. Scheduled for eight rounds.

In another scheduled eight, Alex Tui, 160, halted brave Dino Billinghurst, 162, in Round Six. Very good fight with praise for the loser's courage.

David Amoa, 144½, halted Murray Crooks, 146¾, in Round Three of an eight.

Over six, Alan Whitten, 125, outpointed southpaw Peter Warren, 125¾, in a very good encounter. Two judges saw it Whitten's way by one point. The third judge had it even.

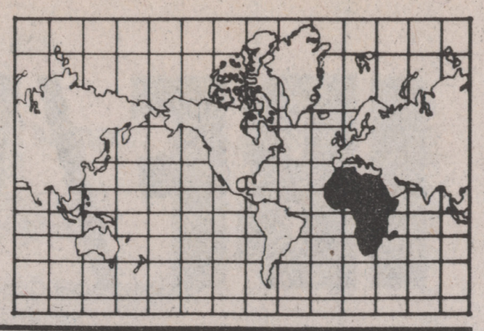
In a four, Arzan Basic, brother of Amian, outpointed Mark Moran. Basic outweighed him 238½ to 199¼.

Promoter: Bill Mordey.
(9-5-88)

QUEENSLAND

▶**MT ISA**—Irish Club—Australian junior middleweight champion Steve Peel scored a comfortable points win over Guy Parker in a 10-round non-title tilt here. Scores: 98-94, 98-94 and 98-95. All supports were amateur bouts.
(8-18-88)

RAY MITCHELL



AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

▶**QUEENSTOWN** — Tonontono Ralane outpointed Jackie Ndaliso over eight rounds in the featherweight division.

Ralane is unbeaten in his last six bouts.
(7-31-88)

▶**MDANTSANE** — In a major upset, former South African flyweight champion Baby Joe Miya was knocked out in the ninth round by seven-fight novice Jaji Sibali.

Miya was completely outboxed by the inexperienced Sibali before being knocked out with a terrific right uppercut. Miya was unconscious five minutes.
(7-31-88)

▶**ELDORADO PARK** — Don Mateman Hall — In a rather dull and one-sided fight, Patrick Mpamba, 146, retained the Transvaal welterweight title with a 10-round decision over Mbulelo Ndlazi, 145.

The 20-year-old challenger, having only his seventh professional fight, was out of his depth against the experienced Mpamba.

David Potsane, 138, was rather unlucky to receive a draw against defending champion Jeffrey Mankune, 140, in their clash for the Transvaal junior welterweight title. At the age of 30, Mankune possibly is near the end of his career and did not appear as sharp as usual.

Promoter: Simon Mbonani.

Attendance: 800 (est.).
(7-31-88)

▶**PORT ELIZABETH** — Cape welterweight champion Linda Nondzaba retained his title with a unanimous 10-round decision over Brown Bongo. Nondzaba was the better boxer, piling up points with his southpaw right jab.
(7-31-88)

▶**PORT ELIZABETH** — Mzwandile Somthunzi completely outclassed veteran Frazer Ndzandze before stopping him in the seventh round of a scheduled 10 at the bantamweight limit.

South African featherweight champion Mxhosana Jongilanga was most unimpressive in scoring a decision over eight rounds against a game Phindile Gaika.

Xolani Sirhunu stopped Dean Sawuti in the sixth of their welterweight contest.
(8-6-88)

▶**MDANTSANE** — Chris Whiteboy scored an easy eight-round decision over Norman Zwilbi in a dull welterweight contest. The veteran Whiteboy is 43-5-3.

Tembile Lubisi scored a three-round TKO over Pumzile Matomela in a featherweight clash.
(8-7-88)

▶**JOHANNESBURG** — Sakkie Horn, 175, the South African light heavyweight champion, retained his title with a one-sided 12-round decision over Prince Tukane, 175.

It was Horn's third defense of his title and made him a permanent holder of the Old Buck championship belt.

Horn was in outstanding form, completely outboxing his challenger. He did not lose a round on any of the cards in improving to 26-5-1.

Fransie Badenhorst, 121, scored a unanimous 10-round decision over awkward Frenchman Kamel Djadda, 123. Even though the scorecards indicated a one-sided win for Badenhorst, the rugged Frenchman gave him a tough fight. Badenhorst is 26-7, Djadda, 12-10-1.

Promoter: Manuel Ribeiro.

Attendance: 1,600 (est.).
(8-8-88)

▶**CAPE TOWN** — Jackie Gunguluza retained the Cape featherweight title with a hard-earned 10-round decision overf gutsy challenger Sidwell Skalika.

Skalika had to shed two pounds within 30 minutes

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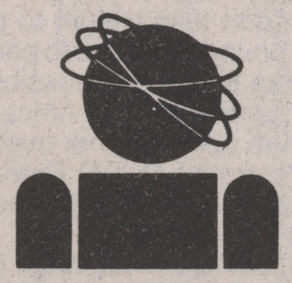
PAIN IN THE NECK



PAIN IN THE CHEST



SEVERE SWEATING



DIZZINESS

DON'T GIVE THESE SIGNALS A SECOND THOUGHT.

ACT IMMEDIATELY.

These signals may be the warnings your body gives you of a heart attack. And by ignoring them, you could be risking serious problems. Remember each year 350,000 Americans die from heart attacks before reaching the hospital. Often after much delay ignoring these warning signs.

So learn to recognize the symptoms of a heart attack. And when you see one or feel one, act quickly. As soon as you recognize a signal seek help immediately from a paramedic. Or get to an emergency room the fastest way possible.

You may not have a second to spare.

WARNING SIGNALS OF A HEART ATTACK

1. An uncomfortable pressure, fullness, squeezing or pain in the center of your chest behind the breastbone.
2. The sensation may spread to your shoulders, neck or arms. If it lasts for two minutes or more, you could be having a heart attack.
3. Severe pain, dizziness, fainting, sweating, nausea or shortness of breath may also occur, but are not always present.

of the weigh-in to make the weight limit of 126, and this affected his performance.

South African junior flyweight champion Vuyani Nene completely outclassed Fikile Ngubulanga, stopping him in the fifth round.

Attendance: 1,000 (est.).

(8-14-88)

▶**DURBAN** — Westridge Tennis Stadium — South African heavyweight champion Pierre Coetzer scored an easy second-round knockout over American Tim Anderson in a scheduled 10.

Anderson started in impressive fashion as he danced out at the bell. But this didn't last long as Coetzer attacked to the body and eventually ended up breaking the American's nose with a deadly left hook.

Another devastating left hook dropped Anderson flat on his face and the referee counted him out at 2:58.

Simon Skosana, the South African bantamweight champion, fought a tactical battle to take a unanimous decision over American Jesse Williams. Williams was forced to lose weight to come in at the agreed limit of 123 pounds and had to pace himself to last the distance.

Siza Makhatini, possibly the best black heavyweight produced in South Africa, boxed well to outpoint Frenchman Jean Chanet over eight rounds.

Promoter: M & R Promotions.

Attendance: 6,000 (est.).

(8-14-88)

▶**SPRINGS** — Springs Indoor Arena — Charles Oosthuizen, 154, retained his South African middleweight title against Mbulelo Mxokiswa, 158, with an easy four-round TKO.

The determined Oosthuizen started slowly against his young challenger, who was having only his eighth pro fight. But his sustained body attack forced the referee to intervene at 1:59 of the fourth round.

The defense was the first for Oosthuizen, who is 19-4-2.

Gerhard Botes, 154, scored a convincing 10-round TKO over Matthias Mbatha, 152, in defense of his Transvaal junior middleweight title.

(8-22-88)

RON JACKSON



IBF/WBA/WBC RATINGS

IBF as of October

WBA as of October

WBC as of September

HEAVYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Mike Tyson (US)	C	C	C
Carl Williams (US)	1	3	3
James Douglas (US)	2	–	5
Frank Bruno (England)	3	1	1
Pinklon Thomas (US)	4	–	–
Trevor Berbick (US)	5	9	8
Orlin Norris (US)	6	7	9
Francesco Damiani (Italy)	7	2	–
Tim Witherspoon (US)	8	10	12
Jose Ribalta (US)	9	6	4
Razor Ruddock (Canada)	10	5	6
Adilson Rodrigues (Brazil)	–	4	2
Tyrell Biggs (US)	–	8	14
Tony Tubbs (US)	–	–	7
Michael Dokes (US)	11	–	10

CRUISERWEIGHT/ JR. HEAVYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Evander Holyfield (US)	C	C	C
Patrick Lumumba (Kenya)	1	6	4
Anthony Witherspoon (US)	2	–	11
Taoufik Balbouli (France)	3	3	3
Alfonso Ratliff (US)	4	–	22
Ralf Rocchigiani (Germany)	5	–	16
Michael Greer (US)	6	5	2
Sammy Reeson (England)	7	1	6
Olian Alexander (US)	8	–	9
Everett Martin (US)	9	4	13
Bert Cooper (US)	10	7	8
Carlos DeLeon (Puerto Rico)	–	2	1
Ossie Ocasio (Puerto Rico)	–	8	–
Glenn McCrory (England)	12	9	5
Robert Daniels (US)	–	10	14
Daniel Netto (Argentina)	–	–	7
Bash Ali (Nigeria)	–	–	10

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Charles Williams (US)	C	–	–
Uriah Grant (US)	1	10	10
Rufino Angulo (France)	2	–	–
Frankie Swindell (US)	3	–	12
Anthony Willis (US)	4	1	1
Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)	5	2	4
Dennis Andries (England)	6	3	3
Bobby Czyz (US)	7	–	9
Willy Featherstone (Canada)	8	9	8
Tom Collins (England)	9	–	2
Jorge Salgado (Argentina)	10	–	17
Virgil Hill (US)	–	C	–
Chong-Pal Park (Korea)	–	4	–
Jean-Marie Emebe (Cameroon)	–	5	15
Pedro Van Raamsdonk (Finland)	–	6	–
Ramzi Hassan (US)	–	7	7
Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)	–	8	5
Don Lalonde (Canada)	–	–	C
Alex Blanchard (Holland)	–	–	6

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Graciano Rocchigiani (Germany)	C	–	–
Lindell Holmes (US)	1	1	–
James Kinchen (US)	2	5	2
Chris Reid (US)	3	4	5
Frank Tate (US)	4	–	–
Jeff Harding (Australia)	5	–	6
Vincent Boulware (US)	6	10	–
Tarmo Uusivirta (Finland)	7	9	8
Nigel Benn (England)	8	–	–
Thulani Malinga (South Africa)	9	–	–
Mike Peak (US)	10	–	–
Fulgencio Obelmejias (Venezuela)	–	C	–
Thomas Hearns (US)	–	2	3
Victor Cordova (Panama)	11	3	16
Jay Strickland (US)	–	6	–
Wang-Sup Lee (Korea)	–	7	–
Mark Kaylor (England)	–	8	–
Ray Leonard (US)	–	–	1
Chong-Pal Park (Korea)	–	–	4
In-Chul Baek (Korea)	–	–	7
Chris Tiozzo (France)	–	–	9
Juan Roldan (Argentina)	–	–	10

MIDDLEWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Michael Nunn (US)	C	–	–
Frank Winterstein (France)	1	–	8
Mike McCallum (US)	2	2	4
Thomas Hearns (US)	3	–	–
Doug DeWitt (US)	4	4	12
Chris Tiozzo (France)	5	6	–
Juan Roldan (Argentina)	6	7	–
Herol Graham (England)	7	1	2
Roberto Duran (Panama)	8	3	5
Tony Thornton (US)	9	9	11
Michael Watson (England)	10	–	7
Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)	–	C	–
In-Chul Baek (Korea)	–	5	–
Robbie Sims (US)	–	8	6
Michael Olajide (US)	12	10	3
Iran Barkley (US)	–	–	C
Lindell Holmes (US)	–	–	1
Kevin Watts (US)	–	–	9
Frank Tate (US)	–	–	10

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHT/ SUPER WELTERWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Matthew Hilton (Canada)	C	–	–
Robert Hines (US)	1	4	5
Troy Waters (Australia)	2	–	10
Darrin Van Horn (US)	3	2	4
Jose Varela (Germany)	4	9	13
Lupe Aquino (US)	5	3	2
Terry Norris (US)	6	–	28
Francisco DeJesus (Brazil)	7	–	25
Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)	8	8	21
Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)	9	6	3
Rene Jacquot (France)	10	–	14
Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)	–	C	–
John Mugabi (Uganda)	–	1	1
Francisco Lisboa (Indonesia)	11	5	–
Buster Drayton (US)	12	7	15
Jun-Sok Hwang (Korea)	–	10	22
Donald Curry (US)	–	–	C
Duane Thomas (US)	–	–	6
Jorge Castro (Argentina)	–	–	7
Al Long (US)	–	–	8
Chris Pyatt (England)	–	–	9

WELTERWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Simon Brown (US)	C	–	–
Al Long (US)	1	–	–
Tyrone Trice (US)	2	–	12
Marlon Starling (US)	3	3	2
Jorge Maysonet (Puerto Rico)	4	–	16
Manning Galloway (US)	5	7	27
Bobby Joe Young (US)	6	–	–
Mauro Martelli (Switzerland)	7	6	7

Mark Breland (US)	8	1	3
Jean Fontana (France)	9	–	23
Robert Rucker (US)	10	–	–
Tomas Molinares (Colombia)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)	–	2	4
Maurice Blocker (US)	–	4	5
Fujio Ozaki (Japan)	–	5	11
Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)	–	8	1
Luis Garcia (Venezuela)	–	9	20
Kirkland Laing (England)	–	10	10
Lloyd Honeyghan (England)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Miguel Arroyo (Argentina)	–	–	6
Derrick Kelly (US)	–	–	8
Helio Santana (Brazil)	–	–	9

JR. WELTERWEIGHT/ SUPER LIGHTWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Meldrick Taylor (US)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Jong Jung Pacquining (Philippines)	1	–	–
John Meekins (US)	2	5	5
James McGirt (US)	3	–	10
Frankie Warren (US)	4	–	13
Vinny Pazienza (US)	5	–	12
Courtney Hooper (US)	6	–	–
Frankie Randall (US)	7	–	7
Harold Brazier (US)	8	3	2
Thomas N'Kalankete (France)	9	7	18
Terrence Alli (US)	10	–	11
Juan Coggi (Argentina)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)	–	1	6
Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)	–	2	3
Mike Johnson (US)	–	4	–
Engels Pedroza (Venezuela)	–	6	19
Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)	–	8	24
Vincent Releford (US)	–	9	21
Allan Allegria (Philippines)	–	10	25
Roger Mayweather (US)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Rene Arredondo (Mexico)	–	–	1
Cassius Clay Horn (US)	–	–	4
Rodolfo Gonzales (Mexico)	–	–	8
Maurice Rodriguez (US)	–	–	9

LIGHTWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Greg Haugen (US)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Pernell Whitaker (US)	1	1	2
Amancio Castro (Colombia)	2	–	10
Fred Pendleton (US)	3	–	6
Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)	4	–	5
Gert Bo Jacobsen (Denmark)	5	10	–
Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)	6	–	–
Louie Lomeli (US)	7	3	14
Livingstone Bramble (US)	8	–	23
Edwin Rosario (Puerto Rico)	9	2	4
Rolando Navarette (Philippines)	10	–	–
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)	**–**	**C**	**1**
Rafael Pineda (Colombia)	–	4	3
John Duplessis (US)	–	5	11
Rodolfo Aguilar (Panama)	–	6	–
Primo Ramos (Mexico)	–	7	20
Terrence Alli (US)	–	8	–
Alberto Cortes (Argentina)	–	9	8
Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Lester Ellis (Australia)	–	–	7
Chil-Sung Chun (Korea)	–	–	9

JR. LIGHTWEIGHT/ SUPER FEATHERWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Tony Lopez (US)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Tyrone Jackson (US)	1	2	7
Harold Knight (US)	2	8	5
Rocky Lockridge (US)	3	–	10
Juan LaPorte (US)	4	–	9
Ariel Duran (Philippines)	5	–	–
Jim McDonnell (England)	6	9	11
Barry McGuigan (Ireland)	7	5	2
John Molina (Puerto Rico)	8	–	–
Mario Martinez (Mexico)	9	1	1
Jean Baptiste Mendy (France)	10	7	–
Brian Mitchell (South Africa)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Mario Miranda (Colombia)	–	3	3
Jackie Beard (US)	–	4	19
Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)	–	6	12
Rene Weller (Germany)	–	10	–
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Lupe Suarez (US)	–	–	4
Roger Arevalo (Mexico)	12	–	6
Johnny de la Rosa (Dominican Rep.)	–	–	8

FEATHERWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Jorge Paez (Mexico)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Calvin Grove (US)	1	–	24
Hector Lopez (US)	2	5	1
Javier Marquez (Mexico)	3	–	11
George Navarro (US)	4	–	2
Jeff Franklin (US)	5	–	15
Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)	6	–	9
Mauricio Stecca (Italy)	7	4	3
Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)	8	7	13
Miguel Francia (Argentina)	9	–	17
Steve Cruz (US)	10	–	20
Antonio Esparragoza (Venezuela)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Jose Marmolejos (Panama)	–	1	–
Valerio Nati (Italy)	–	2	–
Marcos Villasana (Mexico)	–	3	4
Mitsuru Sugiya (Japan)	–	6	–
Tyrone Downes (Barbados)	–	8	5
Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)	–	9	12
Byung-Soo Park (Korea)	–	10	8
Jeff Fenech (Australia)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Bernard Taylor (US)	–	–	6
Robert Rivera (Puerto Rico)	–	–	7
Sidney Dal Rovere (Brazil)	11	–	10

JR. FEATHERWEIGHT/ SUPER BANTAMWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Jose Sanabria (US)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Manuel Miranda (Puerto Rico)	1	–	–
Louie Espinoza (US)	2	3	5
Vincenzo Belcastro (Italy)	3	–	–
Fabrice Benichou (France)	4	–	–
Jesse Benavides (US)	5	–	12
Valerio Nati (Italy)	6	–	2
Jesus Poll (US)	7	2	4
Ramon Cruz (Puerto Rico)	8	–	–
Steve McCrory (US)	9	–	6
Pedro Decima (Argentina)	10	10	9
Juan Jose Estrada (Mexico)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Julio Gervacio (Dominican Rep.)	–	1	16
Paul Banke (US)	–	4	10
Loris Stecca (Italy)	–	5	3
Mark Horikoshi (Japan)	–	6	7
Takuya Muguruma (Japan)	–	7	8
Orlando Fernandez (Puerto Rico)	–	8	29
Renaldo Carter (US)	–	9	24
Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)	–	–	1

BANTAMWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Orlando Canizales (US)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Jimmy Navarro (US)	1	–	–
Raul Perez (Mexico)	2	3	2
Kelvin Seabrooks (US)	3	–	18
Ken Mitchell (US)	4	6	23
Hurley Snead (US)	5	7	3
Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)	6	4	1
Ray Minus (Bahamas)	7	–	13
Luisito Espinoza (Philippines)	8	–	8
Roland Gomez (US)	9	–	–
Simon Skosana (South Africa)	10	–	–
Sung-Kil Moon (Korea)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Edgar Monserrat (Panama)	–	1	5
Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)	–	2	–
Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)	–	5	7
Chun Huh (Korea)	–	8	4
Frankie Duarte (US)	11	9	17
Lorimer Pontino (Philippines)	–	10	30
Miguel Lora (Colombia)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Israel Contreras (Venezuela)	–	–	6
Alberto Davila (US)	–	–	9
Chang-Kyun Oh (Korea)	–	–	10

JR. BANTAMWEIGHT/ SUPER FLYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Elly Pical (Indonesia)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Juan Polo (Colombia)	1	–	6
Santos Laciar (Argentina)	2	2	2
Armando Castro (Mexico)	3	–	8
Welcome Ncita (South Africa)	4	–	–
Thanomsak Sithbaobey (Thailand)	5	3	5
Peter Mitrevski (Australia)	6	–	–
Mike Phelps (US)	7	–	–
Renaldo Carter (US)	8	–	–
William Ramos (Puerto Rico)	9	–	–
Ki-Chang Kim (Korea)	10	–	–
Kaosai Galaxy (Thailand)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Alberto Castro (Colombia)	–	1	11
Sugar Rojas (Colombia)	–	4	3
Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)	–	5	1
Tae-Il Chang (Korea)	–	6	9
Kiyoshi Hatanaka (Japan)	–	7	10
Chiaki Kobayashi (Japan)	–	8	15
Chang-Ho Choi (Korea)	–	9	4
Ernesto Ford (Panama)	–	10	24
Gilberto Roman (Mexico)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Ruben Condori (Argentina)	–	–	7

FLYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Rolando Bohol (Philippines)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Duke McKenzie (England)	1	3	7
Dodie Penalosa (Philippines)	2	–	11
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)	3	–	1
Daorung Chuwatana (Thailand)	4	–	–
Kenji Matsumura (Japan)	5	4	15
Elvis Alvarez (Colombia)	6	–	–
Jose Ruiz (Puerto Rico)	7	–	–
Maphai Narachavat (Thailand)	8	–	–
Satoshi Shingaki (Japan)	9	–	–
Richard Clarke (Jamaica)	10	–	3
Fidel Bassa (Colombia)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Hilario Zapata (Panama)	–	1	16
Miguel Mercedes (Dominican Rep.)	–	2	2
Ray Medel (US)	–	5	14
Adrian Roman (Argentina)	–	6	6
Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)	–	7	5
Emil Matsushima (Japan)	–	8	12
Rafael Cabrera (Dominican Rep.)	–	9	25
Romy Navarrette (Philippines)	–	10	–
Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Soon-Joong Kang (Korea)	–	–	4
Javier Lucas (Mexico)	–	–	8
Yul-Woo Lee (Korea)	–	–	9
Nana Konadu (Ghana)	–	–	10

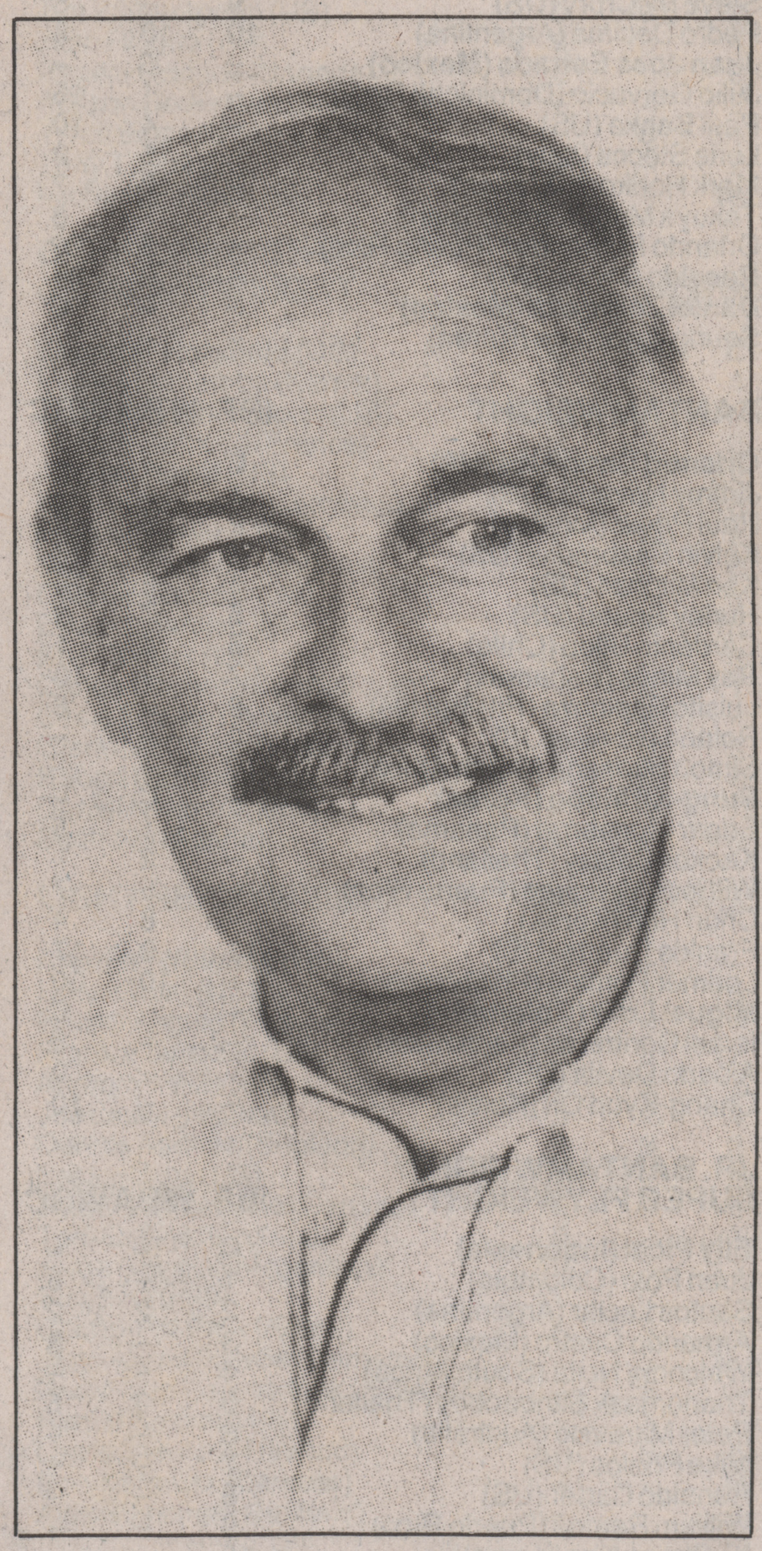
JR. FLYWEIGHT/ LIGHT FLYWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Jum-Hwan Choi (Korea)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Mario DeMarco (Argentina)	1	2	12
Isidro Perez (Mexico)	2	–	3
Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)	3	1	2
Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)	4	5	4
Tacy Macalos (Philippines)	5	–	15
Tony DeLuca (US)	6	–	–
German Torres (Mexico)	7	–	1
Carlos Orobio (Panama)	8	–	–
Jose DeJesus (Puerto Rico)	9	3	5
Pedro Feliciano (Puerto Rico)	10	–	–
Myung-Woo Yuh (Korea)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)	–	4	6
Udin (Indonesia)	–	6	–
Armando Velasco (Mexico)	–	7	–
Katsumi Komiyama (Japan)	–	8	7
Hideyuki Ohashi (Japan)	–	9	11
Jesus Rojas (Venezuela)	–	10	16
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Jorge Cano (Mexico)	–	–	8
Agustin Garcia (Colombia)	–	–	9
Muangshai Kittikasem (Thailand)	12	–	10

MINI FLY/MINIMUMWEIGHT/ STRAWWEIGHT	IBF	WBA	WBC
Samuth Sithnarvelpol (Thailand)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Eric Chavez (Philippines)	1	–	11
Boy Lucas (Philippines)	2	–	4
Kajkong Danpoothai (Thailand)	3	–	13
Santiago Mendez (Mexico)	4	–	5
John Arief (Indonesia)	5	–	–
Trang Boonlert (Thailand)	6	6	24
Luis Monzote (US)	7	–	–
Hector Patri (Argentina)	8	–	15
Javier Varquez (Mexico)	9	–	6
Ink-Yu Hwang (Korea)	10	–	–
Rafael Gamez (Venezuela)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Bong-Jun Kim (Korea)	–	1	–
Tony DeLuca (US)	–	2	–
Augustin Garcia (Colombia)	–	3	–
Sam-Joong Lee (Korea)	–	4	16
Jose Lagos (Argentina)	12	5	8
Ha-Shik Lim (Korea)	–	7	–
Kyung-Yun Lee (Korea)	–	8	2
Missile Kudo (Japan)	–	9	20
Benedicto Murillo (Panama)	–	10	–
Hiroki Ioka (Japan)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Nana Katwanchai (Thailand)	–	–	1
Sung-Woo Lee (Korea)	–	–	3
Ricardo Lopez (Mexico)	–	–	7
Hi-Yong Choi (Korea)	–	–	9
Francisco Montiel (Mexico)	11	–	10

IN THIS CORNER

by Christopher Coats

EARNIE FUENTES (Matchmaker)



WHEN IT COMES TO STARTING FIGHTS, put 65-year old Earnie Fuentes high on the list. It is what he does best. Fuentes is a matchmaker of professional boxing and he's been doing it for so long he's lost count of the fights he's made, the bloody noses and winners, even some of the fighters' names.

Well known on the west coast, Fuentes has plied his services to every type of promoter who carried a wallet. He even made matches outside the ring.

"I married a lot of my cousins," he said. "I drove three couples to Yuma over the years."

When he was a kid he had some amateur fights. "I was no great fighter," he admitted. "I was just ordinary, but I fell in love with the sport."

In prizefighting for every bruised rib there is a business deal. Some of the glue that keeps the sport together is made of people who know what the hell they're doing. Without them the sport would be nothing more than a barroom brawl. Ask Earnie Fuentes why he is one of the few successful matchmakers in California and he disappears into modesty.

"I've been very lucky. A match may look good on paper, but you can't be sure both fighters will stay in the gym, or that they don't get hurt. Or have some other problem and may not even show up when the day of the fight rolls around. Even if everything goes right, you can't be sure it'll be a good fight.

"I made Tommy Hearns and Pipino Cuevas. Hearns was the favorite. It was in his hometown, but I thought Cuevas would give him fits. Well, he didn't last two rounds. Hey, no matter how much you know about boxing, sometimes you need to be lucky."

Fuentes was born and raised in San Diego. One of 18 children, his parents came from Northern Mexico seeking a better life. He plays golf almost every morning and reads a lot, mostly western novels, where the hero is usually a broad-shouldered, 6'2" character with silver spurs and a Colt pistol. Somewhere over 160 pounds and less than 5'7" in shoes, Fuentes admits he would never be the sheriff or the gunslinger if he lived in the old west. He has daydreams about things that never happened.

"I'd love to have made an Ali-Louis bout. And even more, Ray Leonard against Jose Napoles."

Not long ago Fuentes was sitting in a cafe and got into a conversation about boxing with a stranger.

"Usually when people find out I'm involved in the fights they'll wrinkle their nose. Well, this guy told me that all the fights are phony. And that he never even watches a fight! I said 'if they're phony then I must be a millionaire.' No one has ever said anything to me about fixing a fight."

About eight years ago a boxing writer was sitting next to Earnie Fuentes at a fight card in San Jose. The main event featured Steve Romero, a gutty, hard-punching lightweight who learned about defense a year or two later when he needed a lawyer. The reporter asked the matchmaker if he knew the attendance.

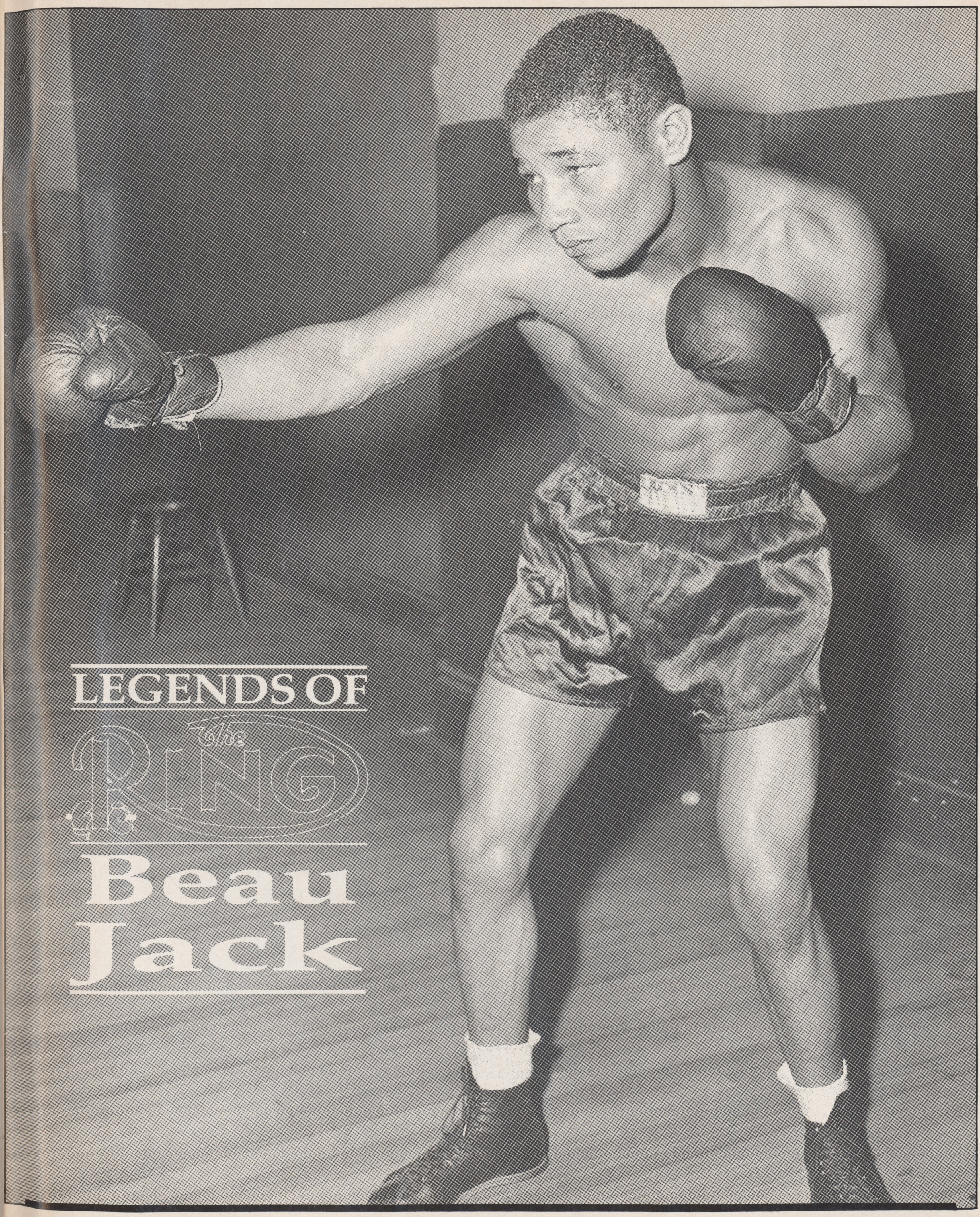
"Put down 2,250," he replied. The reporter wasn't sure. "It doesn't seem like there's more than 1,500 here, at the most." Gazing at the crowd, Fuentes reconsidered. "Okay, then just say there's 2,000 paid."

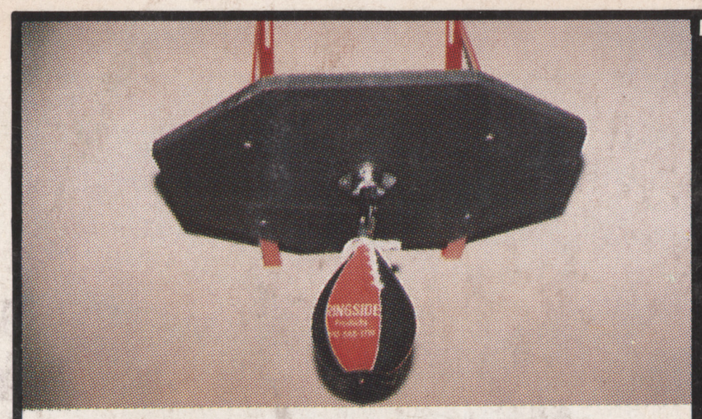
When Fuentes watches a fight he thinks about nothing else. It is like he is reading the final chapter of a great book. The first champion he worked with was Archie Moore, years later there was Manuel Ortiz, and most recently Jose Luis Ramirez and Julio Cesar Chavez.

"I've seen all the great fighters over the past 50 years," he said thoughtfully. "And I think that fighters today are better. Everyone likes to live in the past. People glorify the past, but the truth is that athletes are always improving. The ones who stand out, Willie Pep, or Joe Louis, or a Mickey Walker, well, they were the exceptions."

Along with the fighters, the promoters and the memories, are the disappointments and lies. Some things he's heard many, many times.

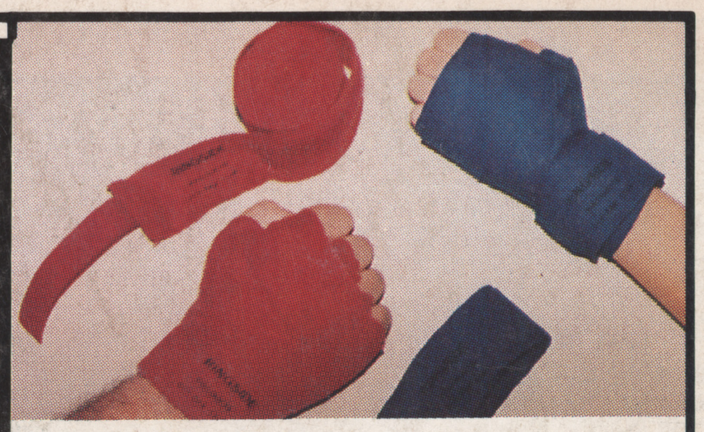
"When a fighter pulls out of a bout you always are told some story. I guess the worst one is when someone says they got a grandmother or an aunt back east or somewhere who is seriously ill, on her death bed. The fighter says he has got to leave town 'cause her last wish is to see him before going to heaven. Well, I know damn well it's all bull, and the guy's a dirty yellow bleep. But I don't say anything. Yeah, I'll do business with him and his manager again, but only if I really have to. It takes more than just raw talent for a fighter to get to the top. He's got to have a smart manager and a good trainer. But there's not many real quality managers and trainers around. If you want to make a fighter, then you just about have to live with him. It's a tough business." □


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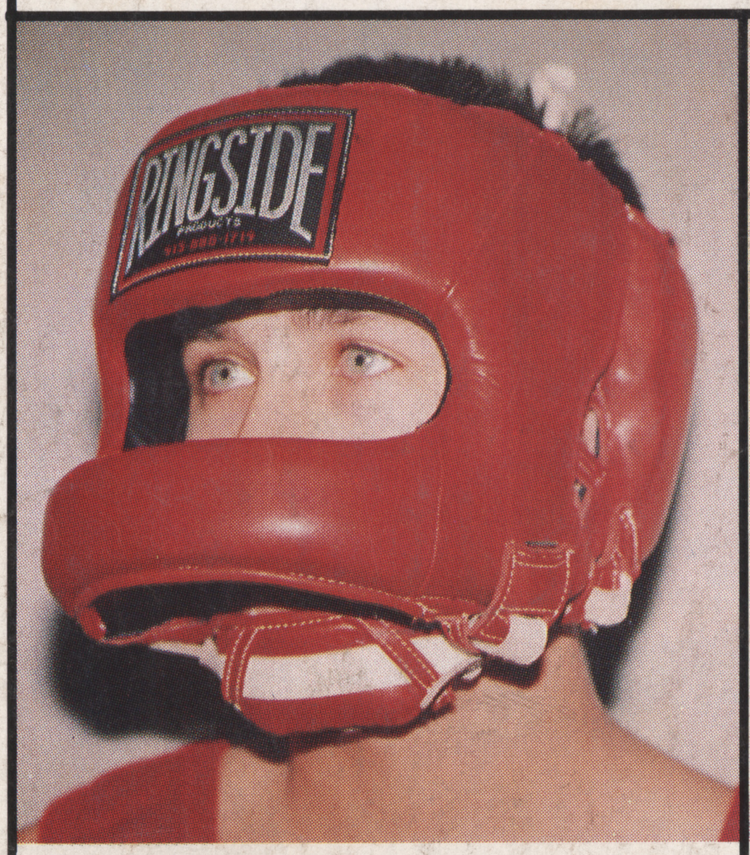
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